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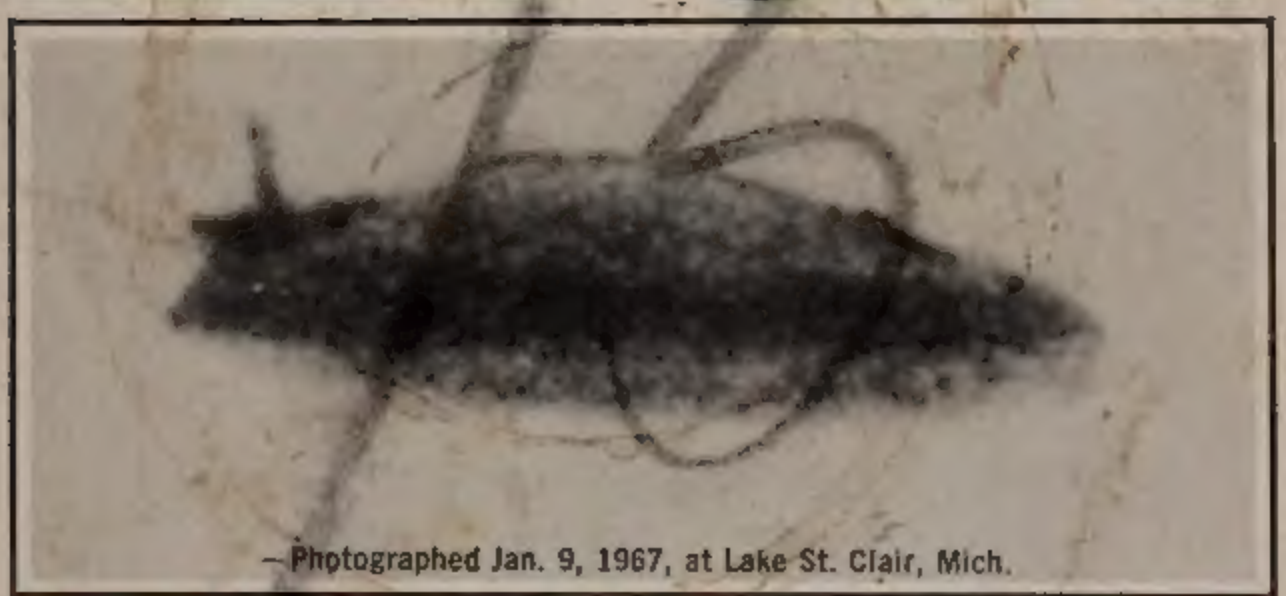

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IRVING A. GREENFIELD

patrice

They are extraterrestrial....

"There may be on the order of millions of highly developed civilizations. That man will not attempt to contact the nearest of these—if only to answer the questions of the density of life in the universe and its diversity or convergence—seems to me unthinkable. The only questions are when and how."

So says a distinguished American scientist.

And isn't it just as logical that others are attempting to contact us—here and now?

THE U.F.O. REPORT

IRVING A. GREENFIELD

LANCER BOOKS NEW YORK

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THE U.F.O. REPORT

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To my wife who so patiently played the part of
Lois Lane

PREFACE

FOR MANY YEARS I have been interested in the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs). Whenever I saw a news story or a magazine article I clipped and filed it. If a new book came out on the subject I made every attempt to read it.

My interest in UFOs was motivated for two different reasons. The first was a curiosity about them and the second was the possibility that I might find a good idea for a short story or a novel. In all the years of collecting I had never spent any time with the material in an effort to organize the facts. I must admit that I was somewhat skeptical to the possibility of UFOs being real and even more doubtful that they might originate from a planet belonging to another sun.

It never occurred to me that I would begin a real adventure with UFOs when I went out to Sag Harbor in the early summer of 1966. My interviews with individuals who had sighted UFOs coupled with what I had researched converted me from a skeptic to a believer.

Let me explain. I found it impossible to admit that all visual sightings were the result of the viewer looking at a bird, a balloon, a conventional type aircraft or having a hallucination at the time of the sighting,

though this is what the Air Force would have the public believe. I also found it hard to believe that all radar sightings were the result of weather inversions or a misinterpretation on the part of the operator. Even more difficult to swallow were the various orders issued to the members of the Air Force about something that had no existence.

Throughout the text I use UFO if the object written about could not be identified. The following abbreviations also occur: ATIC and NICAP. ATIC is the way Air Technical Intelligence Center is known. NICAP stands for the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, a civilian group which has done an excellent job of keeping the public informed on the subject of UFOs.

Without the remarkable work done by men like Donald Keyhoe, Robert B. McLaughlin, Frank Edwards, John G. Fuller and many others who have felt that the public has a right to know the full story about the UFOs, my task would have been more difficult. In my opinion, I think people all over the world owe these men, if not a debt of gratitude, then a sincere thanks.

Irving A. Greenfield
March 1967
New York

"It is not good that man should be alone"
The King James Bible. Genesis 1, 3

I

The town of Sag Harbor is about a hundred miles East of New York City and twenty-five miles West of Montauk Point, the eastern tip of Long Island. For most of the year the eastern tip of Long Island is left to the hearty all-year residents who are used to the biting wind that blows off a storm-wracked ocean; but between May and late September the summer people swarm into the area to take advantage of cool ocean winds, the excellent beaches, wonderful boating facilities and opportunities to make any salt water fisherman's mouth water. All along Highway 27 there are motels, hotels, cabins and at Hither Hills State Park there are even camping facilities for the families who wish to rough it.

In June of 1965 I had spent some time in Sag Harbor in order to gather material for a novel I was writing. I had the good fortune to choose as my base of operations a small motel which is on the north end of town, just a stone's throw from the traffic circle where Route 114 enters the town.

I decided to return to Sag Harbor and the motel in order to begin working on this book.

I arrived at the motel on July 27, 1966. The man and woman who own and operate the motel remembered me and immediately asked if I was working on another book. I told them I was going to write a book on UFOs.

The woman, whose name is Nester, smiled and said her daughter Susan was terribly interested in Flying Saucers and even gets some sort of newsletter in the mail about them.

I don't remember my exact answer but it was probably noncommittal. For one thing, I knew that Nester was the mother of six children, and I couldn't recall Susan. She could have been next to the youngest of the brood or the oldest. Secondly, I wasn't exactly sure that Nester didn't think I was some kind of nut and was just trying to humor me.

I had already discovered that the mention of flying saucers or UFOs would often cause the eyebrows to go up and an amused, if not a tolerant, look to pass over the listener's face. Though the words are never said, the message is all too clear. It goes something like this: *Man, you must have flipped your wig to bother with such nonsense.* Whenever I saw that look I knew it was time to change the subject as quickly as possible.

By late afternoon of the first day I was already busy. From time to time I'd rest my eyes by looking up and across the water to North Haven or to my left at the nearby marina. Either view afforded a wel-

come break from what I was reading. Like most human beings, I have a strong aversion to the remote possibility that all of mankind is under observation by others.

I grew up at the time when Buck Rogers and Flash Gordon were in their heyday. Buck Rogers in the twenty-fifth century made exciting journeys to the moon and Mars, while Flash Gordon made sure that the evil Ming never took control of the planet Mongo. What seemed so absurd then is now happening. Mankind as represented by the United States and Soviet Russia is hurling itself into space. Whether the men who go to the moon and beyond are called Astronauts or Cosmonauts, they are the Christopher Columbuses, the Henry Hudsons and the Magellans of today.

I stopped typing and packed up my notes. It is one thing to examine the facts of a situation and quite another to become involved in romantic speculation about them. I knew that a great deal of speculation had already been done on the subject, even to the point of some individuals laying claim to have made contact with the beings who fly the UFOs.

Just such a contact was claimed by Mr. George Adamski on November 20, 1952. His story was repeated in the August 1966 issue of *Real*.

> Adamski claimed that the stranger wore clothing not unlike his own, that he was five and a half feet tall and appeared to weigh about 135 pounds. Adamski judged the visitor to be twenty-eight years old. Since neither one could speak the other's

language they communicated by telepathy. The visitor to earth was from Venus. His name was Orthon.

Adamski's book *Flying Saucers Have Landed* was, according to Bob Grant, the author of the article in the August issue of *Real*, printed in eighteen different languages and sold a quarter of a million copies. Aside from latching on to a good gimmick to sell books, Mr. Adamski's experiences with extra-terrestrial life fall into a shadowed area of doubt. It is a case where the event was possible but not probable.

There are other claims which are much less extravagant and made by individuals who, unlike Adamski, have nothing to gain by reporting that they have seen a UFO. One such sighting was reported by two Eastern Airline pilots on the evening of July 24, 1948.

Clarence S. Chiles and John B. Whitted were at the controls of a DC-3 en route from Houston, Texas to Atlanta, with intermediate stops between the two cities. Twenty miles southwest of Montgomery at 2:45 a.m. Captain Chiles spotted a light dead ahead of his own aircraft. The light was closing fast. His first thought, he later told an Air Force investigation team, was that the light was a jet. But then he quickly realized that even a jet could not move as fast as the light was moving. Chiles drew his co-pilot's attention to the rapidly closing light. The UFO was now almost on top of them. Chiles brought his own aircraft up into a tight left turn. The UFO rushed by not more than

seven hundred feet to the right of the aircraft, which hit turbulent air. Whitted saw the UFO pull up into a steep climb.

Captain Chiles and his co-pilot were able to give the Air Force investigators a good description of the UFO. To them it resembled the fuselage of a World War II B-29. They said the underside had a "deep blue glow." Both men saw "two rows of windows from which bright lights glowed." They were equally certain about seeing a "50-foot tail of orange-red flame" shoot out of the tail end.

A passenger aboard the same flight told ATIC investigators that he saw a "strange, eerie streak of light, very intense," but was not able to elaborate on the details.

On the same night at twenty minutes after Captain Chiles and co-pilot John B. Whitted encountered a UFO while flying a DC-3 on a scheduled flight from Houston to Atlanta a crew chief at Robbins Air Force Base in Macon, Georgia reported a bright light passed overhead traveling at very high speed.

The reader may judge for himself as to the reality of Adamski's experience with the Venusian Orthon as compared with the UFO encountered by Captain Chiles and co-pilot Whitted on the night of July 24, 1948 on a routine cross-country flight.

As I started up from where I was working, Nester's husband Joseph hailed me. Joe, when he's not working around the motel, is a laborer on various construction projects. The last time I was at the motel he had been working on a jetty in the Southampton area. Joe

is a broad-shouldered, rugged outdoor-looking man. His family has been in the Sag Harbor area for many generations. When he was younger Joe worked on fishing boats or went clamming. He had a wealth of information about the locals at his fingertips.

Nester had already told him that I was working on a book about UFOs. He kidded me about it. Then he said that his daughter Susan had spotted one. I asked him if he had seen it. He laughed and quickly explained that he didn't believe in such nonsense. He said while the kids were out in the yard looking at the thing he remained inside the house. As far as he was concerned, what Susan had seen was the result of an overworked imagination. He attributed the illusion to the ill effects of too much television.

Joe's explanation would readily be accepted by many competent psychologists and psychoanalysts. It would fit perfectly with their thesis that UFOs are the result of mass hysteria and suggestion. The eminent Carl G. Jung in his book *Memories, Dreams, Reflections* claimed that UFOs represented a "compensation of the psychic cleavage, or the anticipation that the cleavage will be surmounted. Since this process takes place in the collective unconscious, it manifests itself everywhere. The world-wide stories of the UFOs are evidence of that: they are the symptom of a universally present psychic disposition."

Perhaps Jung's explanation would explain some of the sightings some of the time but it surely does not explain all of the sightings all of the time. Radar sets are not subject to psychic cleavages and there have

been far too many radar pickups to ascribe to weather conditions or causes other than UFOs.

Joe was taking the pragmatic attitude: *I'm from Missouri, prove it to me.* I can't say that I blamed him. Life's experiences have a way of putting people on their guard about accepting as fact or truth that which doesn't seem possible in the first place.

Somehow the subject of UFOs was dropped and we went on to other things that had to do with the growth of the surrounding area in the past year.

By the end of the following day I had rough drafted a few pages. A good part of the day I worked at Long Beach, which is a lovely beach bordering on Noyack Bay and between North Haven and the town of Noyack.

When I had enough of UFOs I could either divert myself with just looking across the bay or watching the people on the beach. I guess I was more people-conscious than bay conscious. The subject of UFOs and the awareness of those around me began to meld.

I wondered how many of them believed that UFOs are real? How many were of Joe's persuasion? Did any of them ever see a UFO? But more important than those questions was the growing uneasiness on my part that there was the possibility that UFOs were not the result of aberrant weather conditions as proposed by many scientists or the product of the unconscious desire on the part of some individuals with the "will to see." Nor were the sightings of UFOs the visual experience of various individuals looking at weather balloons or other types of airborne objects

which the Air Force was quick to define—in some cases so quick that they were forced to retract the first definition and offer a second, sometimes even a third explanation—for what had been seen.

If I made the supposition that UFOs are indeed very real, several questions immediately presented themselves. *Where did they come from? What was their purpose? Would they eventually have any effect on people who live on earth?* None of these questions seem to have any answer.

There are of course a host of other questions that concern themselves with the technical aspects of the UFO and its remarkable aerodynamic qualities. But as I sat at the beach I wasn't too concerned about the technological developments that UFOs appear to represent. I knew I was allowing myself the luxury of speculating on the possibility that they were from some planet beyond our solar system.

The laws of probability say that there are other stars in the universe much like our own sun and that these other suns could have a system of planets revolving around them. It is therefore quite probable that some of these planets support a form a life equal to that which is found on earth or superior to it. If the life on any one of these planets is equal to our own, then it follows that its civilization would approximately parallel what we have on earth. If on the other hand the form of life is much more advanced than it is on earth it follows that the civilization would also be ahead of our own. It is difficult to define what life would be like if it took a form more advanced than that of man as we know him. Science fiction writers

have created all sorts of weird types to fill this gap. But all real science can do is define the humanoid in terms of his environment. For example, if the environment required that the creature absorb oxygen from a liquid environment such as a fish does, it would be a good guess that the being in question would have a breathing system similar to that of a fish. If, on the other hand, the environment contained a very thin atmosphere such as Mars seems to have, the being would have the kind of respiratory system similar to those people on earth who live in the Andes Mountains or the Himalayas at an altitude above the ten-thousand-foot level.

It is much easier to speculate on an advanced type of civilization than on an advanced type of man. Our own progress in the last quarter of a century provides workable bench marks for what that civilization might be like.

It is not difficult to visualize technological developments that might indeed produce a saucer-like spacecraft capable of traveling immense distances in outer space. But at present we must content ourselves with hurling our primitive rockets toward our first objective and nearest neighbor, the moon, which is a mere quarter of a million miles from us. This distance, which is ten times the circumference of the earth, is negligible in terms of the distances to our neighboring planets within our solar system and becomes even more infinitesimal when the enormous distances expressed in terms of light years are encountered once we leave our sun and its planets and think in terms of deep space. Yet if the assumption is made that UFOs

are real we have enough astronomical data on the other planets in our solar system to make the reasonable guess that they did not originate from any place in the system. The only other place they could have come from is deep space, a place as yet unknown to man.

I must have been deeply involved with my own thoughts because I found myself staring very hard at a young woman who was stretched out on a blanket not too far from where I was seated. She gave me a nasty look and moved away. My speculations ceased and I turned my attention to the bay. In a few minutes I left the beach and drove back to the motel. To my surprise and delight all of Nester's and Joe's children were there. I still couldn't tell which one was Susan but that didn't last long. She came right up to me and told me she was interested in UFOs. When I asked why, she answered that she had seen one. She spoke without smiling, and in a voice that indicated she had no doubt about what she had seen. She questioned me about the book I was going to write on UFOs and about the books I was reading about them. I asked if she would tell me about what she saw. Her eyes lit up and she smiled. Perhaps she thought I was teasing her but I assured her I wanted to hear about it very much. She agreed to tell me what she and her friends had seen.

"The Hearing Ear and Seeing Eye"
Proverbs XX, 12

II

SUSAN IS eleven. Beside her interest in UFOs she is interested in music and recently has begun to study the flute. She looked straight at me and pushed her small fingers through her blonde hair. She seemed to be thinking about how to start. Her lips pursed, then she began to speak.

The sighting took place in late March of 1966 or early April. She did not recall the exact date. It happened about eight or nine o'clock in the evening. The family dog Pancho suddenly became restive and started to whine and bark. Nothing any member of the family could do would quiet him. Suddenly there was a huge roar. Susan dashed out of the house. She looked in the direction of the sound and she saw a saucer-shaped object. It glowed with a red color, almost as though it was on fire. The noise it made was very loud. Her sisters and brother Robert came out of the house. They looked at the object too. Jeb (the nickname for her older sister)

brought out a pair of fifteen-dollar binoculars. Susan looked at the UFO through the glasses. She realized that the red light came from something on the top of the flying object. She distinctly saw a row of lights around its side. The object hovered directly over the house for a short time, then quickly sped away toward the south. She said it went up very fast.

Robert, who was present when his sister told me the story, said that it made a very loud sound and looked like a ball of fire to him. He did not look at it through the glasses. He remarked that after it was gone Pancho quieted down.

I asked Susan if anyone else in the neighborhood saw the object. She said that the people who live next to them also saw it. When I suggested that it might have been an airplane she answered that airplanes don't stay in one place; they move. I offered the possibility that it could have been a helicopter; she responded that she knows what helicopters look like and what she saw wasn't one.

She was very sure that whatever she had seen was like nothing else she knew.

After she finished her story she looked at me with her blue eyes wide and questioning. I nodded and told her I believed her. She flashed a broad smile. Then she said that some people thought that she had made the whole thing up. She asked if I thought UFOs were real. I had to admit that I was beginning to think so.

I thought a lot about Susan's story that evening. There were several details about it which were identi-

cal to past UFO sightings. One in particular interested me, and that concerned the reaction of the family dog Pancho before the rest of the family heard the roar above the house, and before they went out to see what made the sound.

It is a well known fact that a dog can hear sounds above the upper limit of the sixteen thousand cycles per second to which man's auditory senses will respond. The simple dog whistle is based on this ability of the animal to hear a high frequency sound. Other animals display the same kind of sensitivity to sounds beyond the upper limit of man's auditory sense.

The history of UFO sightings is studded with reports of animals reacting just the way Pancho had. As recently as September 3, 1965 in Exeter, New Hampshire, Officer Bertrand reported that horses stabled in a barn near where he saw the UFO became agitated and began to kick and that dogs in the neighborhood began to bark. The kicking and barking stopped once the UFO left. As far back as 1897 an unknown object in the sky near Le Roy, Kansas, caused cattle to become restless.

There are some scientists who have done research on the ability to hear sound not as we normally define it. Sound in the audible frequency range is the result of something that causes the surrounding air envelope to oscillate. This sympathetic vibration in turn is transformed by the mechanism of the ear to neural impulses which the brain translates into specific sounds.

Men like Professor Clyde E. Engals of Cornell University have done research in the ability of his experimental subjects to "hear" electromagnetic waves. He

states that this type of hearing ". . . takes place by direct stimulation of the nervous system, perhaps in the brain . . ." It is his contention that if the ear were bypassed, then many of the hearing problems associated with the ear would be eliminated.

Professor Engals' work on the ability to "hear" electromagnetic waves is of specific interest to anyone involved in the visual and auditory reactions of people who have claimed to have seen a UFO. The reason for making this connection between Professor Engals' work and the reported effect that UFOs have on animals is that we do not as yet understand how a UFO moves and one theory that has been advanced to explain their movement is that they somehow manage to utilize the electromagnetic field around the earth as a source of energy.

I think it would be safe to say that Susan's dog reacted to the sound beyond the range of human hearing and only when Susan and her family heard a distinct roar did they know that something was overhead. This loud roar, which is audible to the human ear, has been heard by others who have sighted UFOs. One situation on record where a loud roar was heard was the sighting that took place at Sorcorro, New Mexico, at 5:50 p.m., Friday, April 24, 1964. In this situation the observer was police officer Lonnie Zamora. He reported being attracted by a loud roaring sound. The origin of the sound was a UFO on the ground. When he approached it the UFO took off; but as it climbed it made the same roaring sound.

Of all the many other well-documented sightings of a UFO, the sighting made by Officer Zamora is of

special interest because as late as January 1966 Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr., was reported to have said when referring to the Sorcorro case: "It has been well investigated and analyzed by experts, but it is still a mystery." What makes this particular sighting unique is the fact that Officer Zamora claimed that he saw a UFO on the ground. When the UFO took off it was with "an ear-splitting roar."

Susan and her family heard an ear-splitting roar too. Perhaps there is a connection between Officer Zamora's experience April 24. 1964, and that of a girl named Susan two years later in a small Long Island town some two thousand miles from Sorcorro, New Mexico. If there is a nexus between the two widely separated events, then it must necessarily lie in a area other than something which might parallel proximity of time and geographic distance. What seems to be suggested by Susan's experience as compared with Officer Zamora's is that Susan could have been witness to a UFO just seconds after it became airborne, that the UFO she and her family saw might have landed in the vicinity of North Haven or Shelter Island? Over the years many sightings have been made of UFOs on or very near the earth. In some cases the UFO was reported to have made a loud roaring sound when it climbed to a higher altitude. Experiences of diverse individuals, widely separated in both distance and time, are too similar to be attributed to mere coincidence.

Susan's description of what she saw was very definite. She said that it glowed with a red color. Her brother Robert said it looked like a fire ball. Susan said that when she looked at the UFO with binoculars

she saw a row of lighted windows. The August 1966 issue of *Saga* ran an article by David Anderson entitled *The Saucer That Terrorized a Town.* This article was about the sightings made on January 11, 1966 at the town of Wanaque, New Jersey. The descriptions of the UFO made by various individuals were: "The object was like a small moon. It had a reddish glow." Another eye witness said of the UFO: "It was a big ball of light. It was reddish on the inside and bluish on the outside." Another description of the UFO was that it had an "orange-blue color like an acetylene torch. Whatever it was, it was definitely there. And it seemed to have portholes." For an eleven-year-old, Susan's ability to describe what she had seen was remarkably accurate.

As far as I knew, Susan's sighting of a UFO never got beyond the immediate circle of family and friends. I couldn't help but wonder if other people had seen UFOs around the time that Susan had seen hers? Later that same night I was told that a number of people in the Easthampton and Amagansett areas had also sighted UFOs.

"The eye is not satisfied with seeing"
Ecclesiastes I, 8

III

The knowledge of the UFO sightings in the Easthampton and Amagansett area came my way in the same coincidental manner that I happened on Susan's experience. That is to say that when I chose to return to the motel in Sag Harbor it was not with the foreknowledge that anything remotely connected with UFOs had occurred. My previous experience at the motel had been so pleasurable that I again wanted to spend a few days there and begin working on this book. The choice proved to be fortunate.

A few hours after I had heard Susan's story I stopped for a nightcap at the Black Buoy in Sag Harbor. I was at the bar when the proprietress stopped to chat. She explained that she was Susan's aunt and that Joe was her brother. She said she had seen me working as she passed the motel. Susan's mother had told her what the book was about. For awhile we spoke about Susan; then she casually mentioned that quite a few people in the vicinity had seen UFOs. She told me that the

Easthampton Star had run several stories about the sightings.

Even as she was telling me this, I made up my mind to spend the next day doing some investigating of my own. The first stop would be at the offices of *The Easthampton Star*. I couldn't help feeling a certain amount of excitement about what I had been told. I ordered another drink. Before I finished it Susan's aunt asked me if I really thought UFOs were real? I answered somewhat ambiguously by telling her that a good many facts seemed to indicate that they were. She then questioned where they could come from and what they were doing here. I answered that no one seemed to know. I thanked her for the information she had given me and bid her goodnight.

Outside I stopped and looked up at the night sky. The moon was almost full and the light from it obscured many of the dimmer stars. All through man's history the night sky made him pause and think either about himself and the human condition or wonder if somewhere out there another race of mankind exists with the same passions, hopes and needs as his own? Up until quite recently much of his speculation about extra-terrestial life centered on man's defining life in space in terms of himself just as the early biblical scribes who put down the events of man's creation in terms of God's creating man in his own image when in reality they meant that it was man who created Yawah in his image. Even in the twentieth century we still do the same kind of inversional thinking. We look for a logical cause and effect sequence that falls within our realm of comprehension. If we cannot compre-

hend it we either choose to deny its existence or explain it away as something other than what it appears to be.

Perhaps the classical case of this need on the part of man to define everything either in terms of himself or the earth on which he lives took place in Florence, Italy, in the year 1633 when Galileo Galilei was forced to repudiate what he had observed with his own eyes: namely, that the earth revolved around the sun and not the sun around the earth. It was clear to the members who sat in judgment of him that he was a heretic; after all, everyone who had eyes could see that the sun rose in the east and set in the west. Any other view was against the will of God and the teachings of the church. To save himself from the stake, Galileo said what his accusers wanted to hear.

Oddly enough, today there are those who think pretty much as did the members of the tribunal who sat in judgment of Galileo. For reasons known only to themselves they will not look at the evidence for the existence of UFOs but find it much more agreeable to dismiss it with what often seems to be a less than rational explanation such as the one offered by Dr. J. Allen Hynke, head of the Astronomy Department of Northwestern University and a consultant to the Air Force inspection team charged with the responsibility of investigating UFO sightings, when he claimed that the UFO sightings at Lansing, Michigan in the spring of 1966 to be nothing more than burning marsh gas. In 1964 Dr. Hynke dismissed officer Zamora's sighting of a UFO near Sorcorro, New Mexico, with the simple explanation that if the UFO had been there it would have been picked up by a nearby radar station. This

rationale omitted the fact that the Air force does not release any information on radar pick-up of UFOs.

On the other side of the fence, so to speak, are men who hold very different opinions about UFOs from those of Dr. Hynke. One such individual who believes UFOs are real is Dr. Walther Riedel who helped develop the German V-2 missile and was Director of Rocket Engine Research for North American Aviation Corporation in 1952. He believed that UFOs came from outer space. Dr. Maurice Biot, one of the world's leading aerodynamacists, concurred with Dr. Riedel. The opinion of both these men was quoted in the now famous article by Bob Ginna in *Life Magazine* in the early nineteen fifties. The article entitled "Have We Visitors From Outer Space?" had a significant impact on the American public.

Edward J. Ruppelt who was then responsible for the Air Force project that investigated UFOs later wrote in his book *Unidentified Flying Objects* that his answer to the article in *Life* "was purposefully weasel-worded because I knew that the Air Force had unofficially inspired the article." The answer Ruppelt released to the press through the Pentagon was: "The article is factual but *Life's* conclusions are their own."

By the time I reached my motel room I was tired enough to sleep. I had put in a good day's work and I had stumbled on some very interesting sightings of UFOs made by people who were easily accessible to me.

The following morning the sky was overcast and the weather forecast for a cool, cloudy day with intermittent rain. I was on my way to Easthampton as soon

as I finished breakfast. I drove along Highway 114, which connects with New York 27 between Bridgehampton and Easthampton. The sky was gray with low-scudding clouds. It started to drizzle before I reached Easthampton. But the drive was pleasant enough.

The offices of the *Easthampton Star* occupy an old wooden frame building just two doors away from the town library. There were two women behind the high counters. One was busy typing and the other was measuring the size of the various advertisements that the paper had run. A man came out of the rear area and asked what I wanted. I told him who I was and that I wanted to look over the clipping file on UFOs. He gave me an odd look. I hastened to explain that I was writing a book on UFOs and had heard that there had been some sightings in the neighborhood. He asked me to wait a moment and went back behind the partition that divides the business office from the others in the rear area. A few minutes later he returned with a manila envelope. He offered me the use of an empty desk. I thanked him and sat down to read the less than a dozen clippings.

The first clipping I read had nothing to do with the sightings in the Easthampton area. It wasn't even a clipping from the *Easthampton Star*. The story came from the April 23, 1966 issue of the *Long Island Press* and concerned the sightings of UFOs made in the Bayside area of Queens, a borough of New York. Milton Perloff of Bayside reported having seen a UFO; others in the neighborhood substantiated his story that there was something other than a plane or a helicopter

overhead at the time he made the sighting. As far as I could remember there were no other newspaper reports of this sighting—at least not in *The New York Times*. I turned my attention to the other clippings which did originate with the *Easthampton Star*.

The account that was covered in some detail concerned the sighting made by Miss Kathy Finch and Mr. Gary Hall. Kathy and Gary were together when they saw the UFO. Kathy was nearing her sixteenth birthday. Gary was older. The accounts of what the two of them saw gave more space to Kathy's explanation than to Gary's. Kathy is the daughter of Police Lieutenant Earl H. Finch of Amagansett. Kathy's experience with the UFO took place at about nine-thirty in the evening at a place called Indian Wells. The story in the May 12, 1966 issue of the newspaper left no doubt that Kathy and Gary had indeed sighted a UFO. Rather than use the newspaper's account of what Kathy saw, I decided to get her account of the incident.

Before leaving the offices of the *Easthampton Star* I had the opportunity to speak with the paper's editor, Mr. Rattray. He was extremely cordial but it was obvious that he didn't think too much of Kathy's account or the stories of other sightings that local residents had reported. I reminded myself that it's the difference of opinion that makes horseracing. I thanked him for the use of his files and left. I decided to stop at the Amagansett Police Station and ask Lieutenant Finch's permission to interview his daughter Kathy.

The police station for the town of Amagansett is

located in the rear of a large red building just a short drive from the offices of the *Easthampton Star*. The officer at the desk informed me that Lieutenant Finch did not come on duty until 4:00 p.m. that afternoon.

I was about to leave when a side door opened and a short, stocky man walked in. From the badge he wore I knew he was the town's police chief. I introduced myself and told him who I was and why I wanted to see Lieutenant Finch. He said I could call the lieutenant at home and he gave me his number.

I took a chance and asked him if he was involved in investigating Kathy's UFO sighting. He wasn't. I asked him if he had heard of other sightings. He said that a man named Bruce Fields had said he had seen a UFO. I asked what he thought about the sighting Kathy had made. He replied that until he sees one himself he can't believe they exist. I also found out that there was no record of Kathy's report of a UFO on the police blotter. I asked if he knew whether or not the nearby Air Force GCI Radar had picked up or tracked any unknown object at about the time Kathy reported sighting a UFO. He smiled and said that even if they had they wouldn't release the information. He gave me Lieutenant Finch's home phone number and told me that I could find Mr. Bruce Fields in the Buick Garage a short distance down the road.

Bruce Fields was another good lead. It was almost lunchtime when I got back into my car and set out for the Buick Garage. The drizzle had turned into a steady rain. I drove slowly, keeping my eyes peeled for the garage and at the same time letting my

thoughts go over what the police chief had told me about his own attitude toward the sightings.

I wondered if anything less than a face-to-face encounter with a UFO would make him believe they are real or even if he did see one, would he doubt his own visual sense? I began to see something amusing about his attitude, though it is widespread and held by many technically competent people. Individuals of his persuasion could just as easily reject the germ theory of disease because after all how many of them see living germs under a microscope, let alone correlate what they see with illness in man; or they might lay dispute to the theory of evolution as was done early in the century in the now famous Scopes Trial in which Clarence Darrow scored such a brilliant triumph.

As I continued to drive I remembered the story of the Admiral who was Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at about the time that the United States was developing its first atomic bomb. He publicly stated that the device wouldn't work and implied that it was a waste of the taxpayers' money. After all, he knew all there was to know about explosives. What the Admiral forgot was that he knew nothing about nuclear fission.

I saw the garage and pulled off the road. A few minutes later I was talking to Mr. Bruce Fields. He's a young man and didn't look like the type who would be easily frightened. He told me that he was "scared" when he saw the UFO. Bruce lives in Easthampton with his wife and family. At the time he saw the UFO he was working in White's Pharmacy in Montauk. His experience took place toward the latter part of March while he was driving a truck home after work.

It was early evening. Bruce was driving West, toward Easthampton on Highway 27. He had reached a lonely stretch of road. On his left there were large dunes and on his right the terrain was flat. Just as he drew close to the MacKay Radio Towers his truck suddenly stopped and its headlights went off. The twin towers were on Bruce's right. He left the truck and opened the hood to check the engine. He had just started to look under the hood when the headlights came back on. He returned to the truck and was able to start it. He drove another hundred and fifty feet or so and then the truck stopped again. He was about to check under the hood once more when he saw a bluish-white light bouncing over the beach beyond the dunes. A few moments later a cigar-shaped object came into view. It was bluish-white.

It rose two or three hundred feet in the air and went out a short distance over the ocean. Then it reversed its course and came directly back at him. It went over him. He judged it to be about seven hundred feet in the air because the radio towers are about four hundred and fifty feet high. It moved very quickly and he lost sight of it.

Bruce was completely honest in his reaction to the experience. He made no bones about being frightened. He told me he went directly to the Amagansett Police Station and told his story to the chief, who listened but did nothing.

I asked Bruce if he remembered anything else. He said there wasn't anything else. I asked him if he told

his story to any of the newspapers. He mentioned the fact that two men from the *New York Enquirer* had interviewed him and had photographed him. He was annoyed about the incident because the pictures were taken without his permission. I asked if he knew whether the story was ever printed. He said he didn't. I thanked him and promised to send him a copy of the book. I drove back to Sag Harbor.

Unlike Susan's UFO, which was saucer-shaped, and the account given in the *Easthampton Star* of the one sighted by Kathy, which was oval, the UFO Bruce sighted resembled a cigar or torpedo. He described it as being bluish-white. The shape and color of this sighting closely approximates the shape and color of the UFO encountered by Eastern Airline pilots Clarence S. Chiles and John B. Whitted on the evening of July 24, 1948, when they were flying a DC-3 from Houston, Texas, to Atlanta, Georgia. Perhaps the most interesting detail of Bruce's sighting is the fact that the engine and headlights of his truck went dead, began to function again, then went dead a second time. And only after the UFO was gone did the engine and lights continue to function in a normal manner.

The documentation on the effect that UFOs have on electrical equipment seems to support Bruce's description of what happened to his truck. As early as November 1953 there appeared to be some relationship between the presence of a UFO in a particular vicinity and the interruption of electrical power in that same vicinity. This particular incident occurred in New Haven, Connecticut. Similar conditions have been re-

ported from many parts, including Mexico, Brazil and Italy and other countries.

The most dramatic of this type of UFO sighting and power failure occurred in November of 1965 when much of the Northeast was suddenly without electricity. The Syracuse *Herald-Journal* carried the story of a UFO sighting made by Deputy City Aviation Commissioner for Syracuse Robert C. Walsh in the vicinity of the city airport at the time of the blackout. Reports of similar sightings during the blackout are now part of the record, such as the UFO sighting made by Flight Instructor Weldon Ross and his student, James Brooking. All three men were airborne at the time of the power failure.

The massive blackout has been attributed to an overloaded tripper but why this should happen is still unknown. Though the cause of this and other power failures of large magnitude cannot be directly blamed on the presences of UFOs in the area of the blackout, the NICAP organization has amassed a substantial amount of data on the presence of UFOs in places where blackouts have occurred. Though the sightings of UFOs in the stricken areas does not in itself constitute proof of their responsibility for the failure of power, it should at least be indicatory of a pattern that might be worth investigating.

Later that afternoon I called Lieutenant Finch at the Amagansett Police Station. He had no objections to my speaking with Kathy about her sighting of the UFO! I was unable to meet Kathy but I did have a long phone conversation with her. She told me what

had happened while she was driving with Gary at Indian Wells.

> The time was nine-thirty at night. Gary was driving. She was in the front seat next to him. They were approaching the Amagansett Beach Association Bathhouse when they saw an oval shaped, grayish glowing object hovering over the top of the bathhouse. It looked as though it was sitting on the top of the building. It had two hatch-like windows in its bottom. Both windows were lighted. There were two white lights on each end of the oval and a red flashing light on its top. She and Gary left the car to get a better look at it. Gary switched on the car's bright lights. The oval shaped object rose quickly and headed West.

I asked Kathy if it made any noise. She couldn't remember whether it had. She wasn't aware of any peculiar odors or other distinguishing characteristics. She told me that after the story had been printed in the *Easthampton Star* a lady who claimed to be a representative of NICAP told her not to tell the story to anyone else. She also mentioned that Gary had been questioned by two men but she didn't know where these men were from because Gary was reluctant to talk about that meeting.

Like Susan, Kathy was sure that what she had seen was not a plane or helicopter. I thanked her and said I would send her a copy of the book when it was published.

"A wheel in the middle of a wheel"
Ezekiel I, 16

IV

THE INTERVIEW I had had with Bruce Fields, my telephone conversation with Kathy Finch and what Susan had told me about the UFO she had seen persuaded me to alter my original plan of the book. It was apparent that I could have no better opening chapters than an account of my own experience at Sag Harbor. The observations made by Susan, Bruce and Kathy could not be considered as valid as those made by technically trained personnel, but all three descriptions have enough concrete detail to give them the ring of authenticity. In two of three sightings more than one individual was present and in the other sighting the description of the UFO was close enough to descriptions given by others not to be the product of the man's "will to see" a UFO. In my opinion Susan, Bruce and Kathy did in fact have the almost unique experience of sighting a UFO.

The phenomenon of UFOs appearing in the sky over the earth is not without a substantial history.

Jacques Vallee in his book *The Anatomy of a Phenomenon* made a quick survey of such reports. He claims that an attempt to visualize what the prophet Ezekiel saw evolves into a machine-like object rather than an optical illusion such as a mirage.

The histories of many other peoples contain visitations from extra-terrestrial vehicles. These periodic visits seem to stretch across all of recorded history. The Mayans have a legend about a giant eagle that came out of the sky with "the roar of a lion." It goes on to describe four beings held in the beak of the eagle who were set down amongst the Mayans but did not breathe the air the way the Mayans did. In an analysis of classical writers William Drake found several dozen references to ancient UFO sightings. Even William Shakespeare seems to have made an indirect reference to UFOs.

Richard: Three glorious suns, each a perfect sun,
Not separated with the racking clouds,
But sever'd in a pale clear-shining sky.
See, see! They join, embrace and seem to kiss,
As if they vowed some league inviolable:
Now they are one lamp, one light, one sun,
In this the heaven figures some event.

King Henry VI, Part III, Act II, Scene I

In the last hundred years a great deal of work has been done in the realm of myth interpretation. We

have discovered that not only do certain myths form part of the collective unconscious, as defined by Jung, but have a frightening reality about them. Myth, we have found, is often history rewritten for what we have come to know as propaganda or the expression of an event so overpowering in its effect on ancient peoples that they were compelled to retell the experience in its mythic form. Men like Carl Jung Robert Graves have done extraordinary work in this area.

I am not by any means suggesting that we accept myths of visitations from space on face value, but I do agree with Jacques Vallee's contention that perhaps an intensive search of ancient myths and accounts of UFOs might bring to light significant facts that might allow us to better understand the UFO in our own day.

Charles Fort, author of *The Book of the Damned*, once made the significant comment: "We are property." He meant that we exist on earth as a result of others' having put us here. Brad Steiger in his book *Strangers From the Skies* takes Fort's remark further and states that the present occurrence—UFOs—represents the return of those *powers* which put us here in the first place.

Admittedly this kind of thinking or guessing is a bit hard to swallow. If man was put here by extraterrestrial beings, how does one explain evolution of the homo sapiens? When was man put here? And of course why? Not to mention by whom?

Several well known scientists have done research in an area closely paralleling Fort's and Steiger's suppositions. Two such eminent men are Carl Sagan, a

Harvard astronomer and I. S. Shkloviski, a Russian astronomer. Their ideas on the subject were set down in their book *Intelligent Life in the Universe.* They point out that there is a possibility that earth was visited by an advanced form of civilization at just about the time when ancient man had become homo sapiens. The key to their hypothesis is the Sumerian people who, from what we know of them, seem to have come into the possession of the arts and crafts of civilization without the necessary centuries of evolutionary development of a technology. They state:

"The successors to the Sumerians and Akkadians were the Babylonians, Assyrians, and Persians. Thus the Sumerian civilization is in many respects the ancestor of our own. I feel that if Sumerian civilization is depicted by the descendants of the Sumerians themselves to be of nonhuman origin, the relevant legends should be examined carefully. I do not claim that the following is necessarily an example of extraterrestrial contact, but it is the type of legend that deserves more careful study.

"Taken at face value, the legend suggests that contact occurred between human beings and a nonhuman civilization of immense powers on the shores of the Persian Gulf, perhaps near the site of the ancient Sumerian city of Eridu, and in the fourth millennium B.C. or earlier. There are three different but cross-referenced accounts of the *Apkallu* dating from classical times. Each can be traced back to Berosus, a priest of Bel-Marduk, in the city of Baby-

lon, at the time of Alexander the Great. Berosus, in turn, had access to cuneiform and pictographic records dating back several thousand years before his time."

Sagan and his Russian colleague postulate:

"Some 25,000,000 years ago a Galactic survey ship on a routine visit to the third planet of a relatively common G dwarf star (the sun) may have noted an interesting and promising evolutionary development: Proconsul. The information would have filtered at the speed of light slowly through the (Milky Way) Galaxy, and a notation would have been made in some central information repository, perhaps at the Galactic center. If the emergence of intelligent life on a planet is of general scientific or other interest to the Galactic civilizations, it is reasonable that with the emergence of Proconsul, the rate of sampling of our planet should have increased, perhaps to about once every 10,000 years. At the beginning of the most recent post-glacial epoch, the development of social structure, art, religion, and elementary technical skills should have increased the contact frequency still further. But if the interval between sampling is only several thousand years, there is then a possibility that contact with an extraterrestrial civilization has occurred within historical times."

The choice of twenty-five million years ago is not arbitrary on the part of the two men. Other scientists working in the fields of anthropology and historical

geology have postulated that at about that time Proconsul, as they have named him, emerged. Proconsul was the father of us all.

Sagan and Shkloviski have traced the Sumerian legends and have discovered that Sumerians depicted their own founders as being non-human but each of the strange beings seemed to have had purpose and that was to instruct mankind. The following is an excerpt from one of the Sumerian legends:

> "This Being, in the daytime used to converse with men; but took no food at that season; and he gave them an insight into letters, and sciences, and every kind of art. He taught them to construct houses, to found temples, to compile laws, and explained to them principles of geometrical knowledge. He made them distinguish the seeds of the earth, and showed them how to collect fruits. In short, he instructed them in everything which could tend to soften manners and humanize mankind . . ."

Sagan and his Russian counterpart have no direct evidence to support their thesis but as Sagan himself said: "But stories like the Oannes legend (part of the legend is quoted above), and representations especially of the earliest civilazations on the earth, deserve more critical studies than have been performed heretofore, with the possibility of direct contact in an extra-terrestrial civilization."

"There are more things in heaven and earth,
Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy"
Hamlet, Act I, Sc. V

V

BEFORE THE ADVENT of UFO sightings in the latter half of the forties and after the descriptions of what could be interpreted as UFOs in myths and legends, there were many records of objects moving about the sky that were not defined as astronomical phenomenona. One of the most detailed of these sightings was made in Le Roy, Kansas, in April of 1897 by Alexander Hamilton, a farmer in the area.

"Last Monday night we were awaked by a noise among the cattle. I arose, thinking that perhaps my bulldog was performing some of his pranks, but upon going to the door I saw to my utter astonishment an airship slowly descending upon my cow lot, about forty rods from the house.

"Calling my tenant, Gid Heslip, and my son Wall, we seized some axes and ran to the corral. Meanwhile, the ship had been gently descending until it was not more than thirty feet above the ground, and we came within fifty yards of it.

"It consisted of a great cigar shaped portion, possibly three hundred feet long, with a carriage underneath. The carriage was made of glass or some other transparent substance alternating with a narrow strip of some material. It was brilliantly lighted within and everything was plainly visible—it was occupied by six of the strangest beings I ever saw. They were jabbering together but I could not understand a word they said.

"Every part of the vessel which was not transparent was of a dark reddish color. We stood mute with wonder and fright, when some noise attracted their attention and they turned a light directly upon us. Immediately on catching sight of us they turned on some unknown power, and a great turbine wheel, about thirty feet in diameter, which was slowly revolving below the craft, began to buzz and the vessel rose lightly as a bird. When about three hundred feet above us, it seemed to pause and hover directly over a two-year-old heifer, which was bawling and jumping, apparently fast in the fence. Going to her, we found a cable about a half-inch in thickness made of some red material, fastened in a slip knot about her neck, one end passing up to the vessel, and the heifer tangled in the wire fence. We tried to get it off but could not, so we cut the wire loose and stood in amazement to see the ship, heifer and all, rise slowly, disappearing in the northwest.

"We went home, but I was so frightened I could not sleep. Rising early Tuesday, I started out by horse, hoping to find some trace of my cow. This I failed to do, but coming back in the evening found

that Link Thomas, about three or four miles west of Le Roy, had found the hide, legs and head in his field that day. He, thinking someone had butchered a stolen beast, had brought the hide to town for identification, but was greatly mystified in not being able to find any tracks in the soft ground. After identifying the hide by my brand, I went home. But every time I dropped to sleep I would see the cursed thing, with its big lights and hideous people. I don't know whether they are devils or angels, or what; but we all saw them, and my whole family saw the ship, and I don't want any more to do with them."

So distressed was Mr. Hamilton by what he saw that he felt compelled to have various individuals who saw him swear that they believed his story. It is interesting to note that the cattle were made restive by the UFO. Also of interest is the physical description of the UFO. It was cigar- or torpedo-shaped and it was well lit.

From time to time those individuals who doubt the existence of UFOs comment on the fact that they seem to come in all sorts of shapes and sizes. In the August 6, 1966 issue of the *Saturday Review of Literature* in an article by John Lear there are simplified drawings of what UFOs look like. These have been made from reports of sightings made by various individuals. Mr. Lear gave the distinct impression that these drawings are nothing more than the chimera of the people who made the sightings. A quick look at the various shapes and sizes of our own aircraft would, I think, make the twelve variations of UFOs in the

Air Force's records seem like child's play compared with what we have produced.

Before the beginning of World War II, when travel by aircraft was restricted to a few, ships carried most of the passengers who crossed the ocean. Most probably the officers of ships were as familiar with the night sky as an astronomer could hope to be. On the North Atlantic run they were treated to displays of northern lights or if a comet streaked across the sky they would see it, provided the weather afforded good visibility. It would be reasonable to assume that if they did see something in the sky that was unusal they would be sure to note it.

An unknown object was seen on October 28, 1902 at 3:05 in the morning. The First Officer and two other witnesses aboard the *Fort Salisbury* just off the West Coast of Africa spotted a huge illuminated object which sank and disappeared. There are no records of a ship's being reported missing in that part of the ocean.

The Monthly Weather Report for March 1904 contains the following account made by the Officer of the Deck aboard the U.S. Navy ship *SS Supply*. Three other people were with the officer and agree with the details he gave:

"1. I have the honor to report that three somewhat remarkable meteors were observed from this ship at 6:10 a.m. (Greenwich Mean Time: 3 hours, 12 minutes) February 28, 1904, in latitude 35° 58′ N., long. 128° 36′ W.

"2. The meteors appeared near the horizon and

below the clouds, traveling in a group from northwest by north (true) directly toward the ship. At first their angular motion was rapid and color a rather bright red. As they approached the ship they began to soar. Passing above the clouds their angular motion ceased, when they appeared to be moving directly away from the earth at an elevation of about 75° and in direction west-northwest (true). It was noted that the color became less pronounced as the meteors gained in angular elevation.

"3. When sighted, the largest meteor was in the lead, followed by the second in size at a distance of less than twice the diameter of the larger, and then by the third in size at a similar distance from the second in size. They appeared to be traveling in echelon, and so continuted as long as in sight.

"4. The largest meteor had an apparent area of about six suns. It was egg-shaped, the sharper end forward. This end was jagged in outline. The after end was regular and full in outline.

"5. The second and third meteors were round and showed no imperfections in shape! The second meteor was estimated to be twice the size of the sun.

"6. When the meteors rose there was no change in their relative positions; nor was there at any time any evidence of rotation or tumbling of the large meteor.

"7. I estimated the clouds to be not over one mile high.

8. The near approach of these meteors to the surface and their subsequent flight away from the

surface appeared to be most remarkable, especially so as their actual size could not have been great. That they did come below the clouds and soar instead of continuing their (celestial?) course is also equally certain, as the angular motion ceased and the color faded as they rose. The clouds in passing between the meteors and the ship completely obscured the former. Blue sky could be seen in the intervals between the clouds.

"9. The meteors were in sight over two minutes and were carefully observed by three people, whose accounts agree as to details. The Officer of the Deck, acting Boatswain Frank Garvey, U.S. Navy, sighted the meteors and watched them until they disappeared."

Reports of UFOs made by ships at sea, explorers, ordinary people and then during World War II by photos are numerous, though not well documented.

Frank Edwards in his book *Flying Saucers: Serious Business* makes the following unique suggestion. It is his contention that the advent of our own jet aircraft forced a change in the design of the UFOs. After 1948 most sightings of UFOs were described as "saucer-shaped" as opposed to the dirigible-shaped craft of older reports. This does not seem to be the case in the sightings made by pilots Chiles and Whitted in 1948 and by Bruce Fields in 1966. I suggest that UFOs do occur in a variety of sizes and shapes. Perhaps each serves a different purpose?

A particularly interesting sighting of a UFO took

place on the night of June 30, 1947, aboard the *Llandovery Castle* off East Africa. The observation was made by three officers of the ship and nine passengers. The ship's log recorded that it was a clear, moonless night.

The object that the twelve people saw was huge. It was about a half mile away from the ship and about one hundred feet in the air. The object turned on a searchlight. The observers aboard the ship were able to see that it was dirigible-shaped and twice the length of the ship, or about a thousand feet long. It appeared to be made of some highly polished metal. The UFO followed the ship for a short time, then it switched off its lights and rose into the night sky with incredible swiftness. It made no sound.

It would be reasonable to assume that astronomers have seen UFOs and perhaps even had the opportunity to photograph them. The Air Force claims that astronomers have not seen or photographed a single UFO. On the first point there seems to be some disagreement. A case for claiming that an astronomer has indeed seen a UFO could be the experience of Frank Halstead, Curator of the Darling Observatory in Duluth, Minnesota. He saw a UFO on November 1, 1955. The UFO was seen from the window of a train. His wife saw it first and called his attention to it. He saw one cigar shaped UFO and another disc shaped. He and his wife observed the UFOs for several minutes.

On May 20, 1950 Dr. Seymour Hess, who is now Head of the Meteorology Department of the Florida

State University, but was formerly associated with the Lowell Obervatory in Flagstaff, Arizona, wrote in a signed letter to NICAP the following account:

"I saw the object between 12:15 and 12:20 p.m., May 20, 1950, from the grounds of the Lowell Observatory. It was moving from the southeast to the northwest. It was extremely prominent and showed some size to the naked eye; that is, it was not merely a pinpoint. During the last half of its visibility I observed it with four-powered binoculars. At first it looked like a parachute tipped at an angle to the vertical, but this same effect could have been produced by a sphere partly illuminated by the sun and partly shadowed, or by a disc-shaped object.

"I calculated from the known factors that it was three to five feet in diameter, from a height of 6,000 to 12,000 feet, and a zenith angle of 45 degrees. This size could easily be in error by a factor or two, but I am sure that it was a small object. The clouds were drifting from the southwest to the northeast at right angles to the motion of the object. Therefore it must have been powered in some way. I did not time it but for the elevation I would estimate its speed to be about 100 miles per hour, possibly two hundred miles per hour. This too means a powered craft. However, I could hear no engine noise."

Dr. Tombaugh, the astronomer who discovered Pluto, described his sightings of UFOs for *Life Magazine*. He and his family observed the UFOs at 10:45 p.m. August 10, 1949, in Las Cruses, New Mexico.

He told the interviewer that he had seen a cigar shaped thing with lighted windows along its side. He said he had never seen anything quite like or equal to that remarkable craft.

Late in 1952 professional astronomers were unofficially polled on the subject of UFOs. The survey was for the Air Force Projects assigned to investigate the entire UFO situation. The report received by the Air Force contained the view of forty-five recognized authorities. The breakdown of their answers was as follows: 36 per cent were not interested in UFO reports; 41 per cent were interested to the point of offering their services; 23 per cent thought that UFOs were a much more serious problem than most people recognized. While none of the astronomers admitted that they thought UFOs could be interplanetary, those who indicated an interest in the subject would only commit themselves to the point of saying that though they did not know what UFOs were, they definitely thought UFOs were real. Approximately 11 per cent of the forty-five astronomers said they had sighted one or more UFOs.

Photographic evidence to prove the existence of UFOs is oddly enough difficult to obtain. The very nature of photography makes it the kind of tool that hoaxters employ to further their own ends. By its very nature the subject of UFOs attracts all sorts of kooks who try to cash in on the gullibility of the public. The recent history of UFO investigation is strewn with false reports of sightings, contacts and unfortunately with photographs of non-existent UFOs.

The August 1966 issue of *Real* has nine pages de-

voted to photographs of UFOs. The April 1, 1966 issue of *Life Magazine* had color as well as black and white pictures of UFOs. The August 6, 1966 issue of the *Saturday Review of Literature* had a black and white photograph of a UFO taken on August 3, 1965 near Santa Ana, California.

I would hazard a guess that some of the photographs in the various magazines are not UFOs but fall into the area of fraudulent presentations. Where then are photographs of absolute integrity? Aside from the photographs that the Air Force must have on UFOs that have not been released to the press, there are three motion pictures of UFOs on record.

One was made at the White Sands Proving Grounds on April 27, 1950. It is a record of a test firing of a guided missile. Besides photographing the missile, the camera picked up another object. That object, though smudgy, was, according to expert opinions, moving. The other photographic records are known as the Tremonton Movie and Montana Movie.

The Montana Movie was made by a civilian on August 15, 1950. It shows two bright UFOs flying in echelon formation. No detail is shown, but the shape of the two unknown objects is clearly circular and they were large. When the Air Force checked on the number and kinds of aircraft in the vicinity where the movie was shot, they found that two jet fighter planes had landed in a nearby airfield but they were not anywhere close to the vicinity of the UFOs.

The Tremonton was shot on July 2, 1952 by a Navy warrant officer who was a chief photographer. The movie was shot while he was off duty. He used a

3-inch telephoto lens and took several feet of film. The film showed about a dozen disc-like objects milling around in a loose formation. After studying the film for several weeks the Air Force experts said that they weren't airplanes, balloons or birds. The Navy also took a crack at studying the movie. From a frame-by-frame examination they arrived at the conclusion that the objects were intelligently controlled.

Exactly what was recorded on both these movie sequences has never been solved; but I think it would be logical to say that both movies are of real objects, and since these objects are not defined as aircraft or birds, they might very well be UFOs. Even if these movies did not exist, it would be strange indeed if the Air Force did not have others, that would more significantly prove the existence of UFOs.

"Many shall run to and fro,
and knowledge shall be increased"
Daniel XII, 4

VI

FROM THE DAWN of recorded history man has looked toward the sky and seen in the sun and moon the mystery necessary to his elemental religious beliefs. In the countries of northern Europe the sun played a vital role in the mythology of the people. It was also the object to which their supplications were made. The Druidic circles of the ancient Celtic people have been well identified with sun worship. Other parts of the world held the moon in veneration.

But man's imagination soared beyond the Moon and Sun and reached out to the planets and stars. He put his thoughts down in myth and story. He looked out at the night sky and saw the panoply of stars and wondered if he might one day travel among them. But even more significant, he wondered whether men like himself might be living out there.

For a long time the concept of extra-terrestrial life was the exclusive province of science fiction writers. Only within fairly recent years has the scientist moved

into a position where he could explore the possibilities of life on other planets and beyond our immediate solar system.

Even before the advent of the space age, astronomers discovered a great deal about our solar system and the stars beyond it. But now they stand on the threshold of a great new era. The recent movement into space has already provided them with close-up views of Mars, the Moon and Venus that their most powerful telescope could not have achieved. Sometime in the next three to five years man will walk upon the surface of the moon and he will see first-hand what our nearest neighbor in space is really like. But he will still look into the sky and wonder about the possibility of life existing somewhere out there.

Whenever scientists speak of extraterrestrial life they divide it into two categories: life as we know it and other forms. Either category may contain a form of life with some sort of intelligence. As I stated in an earlier chapter, life as we know it is indeed a very narrow spectrum. But the possibility and the probability does exist for it to be somewhere out there. Perhaps a more interesting idea to reckon with is that a form of life not anything like our own does exist. It possesses an intelligence equal to or greater than our own. The possibility of finding an intelligence out of our own solar system is indeed an enthralling thought.

On the evening of August 10, 1966, David Susskind hosted a panel on his television program *Open End* that discussed the possibility of life on another planet. The members of the panel included Ray Bradbury,

Lester Del Rey, Walter Sullivan and Isaac Asimov. Mr. Bradbury and Mr. Del Ray are well known science fiction writers. Mr. Walter Sullivan is the Science Editor for the *New York Times* and author of the book *We Are Not Alone*. Mr. Asimov is a biologist of repute and also a writer with a great deal of standing among his peers.

Isaac Asimov said that in terms of speculation there was no doubt that life did exist outside of our world. He estimated that there are about 135 billion stars which would give the probability of 600 million planets with life and about fifty of these would have, according to the same laws of probability, a superior form of life. He further stated that the drive of all matter is toward life.

Walter Sullivan said that a regular pattern of radio frequency emissions seems to come from the direction of a star known as CTA-102. The number refers to the catalog reference assigned to the star at the California Institute of Technology. Other types of emissions from deep space lack a regular pattern. What this particular pattern of signals is indicative of has yet to be solved. When Mr. Sullivan was questioned on the existence of UFOs he gave the opinion that they were the result of mass suggestion.

Lester Del Rey said that he doubted the existence of UFOs. Ray Bradbury was of the opinion that there is some form of life on Mars and thought that if there was an intelligent form of life superior to our own within nearby deep space, then it might attempt to

make contact with us as we have tried to do by way of our radio telescopes.

The problem of extraterrestrial life was also discussed in an article in the August 1966 issue of *Science Digest*. Hubert Pryor, the author of the article, quoted various scientists who had attended a recent meeting in order to discuss the question of life outside of the earth. All of the scientists agreed that the possibility for extra-terrestrial life was indeed very real.

Dr. Harlow Shapley, who discovered that our solar system lies on the edge of the Milky Way and not in its center, said: "There is a high probability that organic life has developed on a great many planets in a great many solar systems."

Dr. Bernard M. Oliver of Hewlett-Packard Company commented. "There may be on the order of a million highly developed civilizations. That man will not attempt to contact the nearest of these—if only to answer the questions of the density of life in the universe and its evolutional diversity or convergence—is to me unthinkable. The only questions are when and how."

Max Lerner, the author of *America As A Civilization*, was also at the symposium. His views were as follows:

> "Extra-terrestrial exploration," he said "is very much a part of our time. It reflects the 'hunger for human connection,' " he added. "Despite the sophisticated communications we have today we are still lonely and estranged.

"His question," said Dr. Lerner, is "not whether there is intelligent life in space but: Is there intelligent life down here on earth?"

Besides our space probes to the moon, Mars and Venus, man has had to content himself with two other sources of information for evidence on the possibility of extra-terrestrial life. One of these is the meteorites which strike the surface of the earth. The other is the radio emissions from deep space which do not have the random pattern that other deep space signals possess.

In 1886 Dr. Otto Hahn, a German geologist of some professional standing, managed to subject a fragment of a meteorite to intensive microscopic examination. Hahn found fossilized remains of creatures resembling those that once inhabited our primordial oceans. He checked his results with the noted zoologist, Dr. D. F. Weinland. Both men agreed that whatever they had seen did at one time live in outer space. Dr. Hahn was given the horse laugh by his contemporaries.

It wasn't until the 1950s that scientists again troubled themselves with examining meteorites for traces of life. A meteorite containing carbon was found near Murray, Kentucky in 1950. Scientists of the Smithsonian Institution subjected the specimen to a lengthy chemical analysis. The report of what they found was published in a book entitled *Chemical Evolution*. What they said they found was "organic compounds" which seemed to be common to the most basic stages of evolution.

Dr. George Mueller of the University College of London examined a meteorite which came down in South Africa in the first part of the nineteenth century. His findings also showed the presence of organic type material necessary for life.

In 1961 a group of American scientists subjected a specimen of the well known Orgeuil meteorite to mass spectrographic analysis with the following results:

> The mass spectrometric analysis reveal that hycrocarbons in the Orgeuil meteorite resembled in many important aspects the hydrocarbons in the products of living beings and sediments on the earth. Based on these preliminary studies the composition of the hydrocarbons in the Orgeuil meteorite provide evidence for biogenic activity.
>
> Though this type of discovery is intrinsically interesting, our search for life beyond the earth would have much more meaning if man could make contact with a form equal to or superior to our own. The radio telescope may provide the means for accomplishing this long before an earthman makes his first trip into deep space.

In 1899 Nicola Tesla, the famous inventor of the Tesla coil and originator of our AC electrical system, was convinced he had received an answer to the signals which he had generated and sent in a dot-and-dash sequence toward outer space. The return signals were periodic and Tesla said: "With such clear suggestion of number and order that they could not be

due to any cause then known to me." He goes on to say, "Although I did not decipher their meaning, it was impossible for me to think of them as accidental . . . There was a purpose behind those signals."

Tesla was sure that he was receiving signals from outer space. He claimed that the repetition rate of the signal was far too regular to be radio frequency emission from interstellar space. Tesla contended that the signals he had received followed those he sent; that is to say, they duplicated his original series of dots and dashes.

Twenty-two years after Tesla's experience with the strange pulse pattern from outer space, Marconi reported that he had received signals of an oddly regular pattern which seemed to be in some sort of code.

On August 28, 1924 *The New York Times* ran a story devoted to the experiments at the Naval Observatory in which a radio camera was used to record signals from Mars. The *Times* said:

> "Development of a photographic film record of the radio signals in a period of 29 hours when Mars was closest to the earth has deepened the mystery of the dots and dashes reported heard at the same time by widely separated operators of powerful stations."

Frank Edwards, the author of *Flying Saucers: Serious Business*, points out that once again we are faced with a recurring cycle of approximately twenty-two years between the time Marconi heard his strange regular signals and the results of the experiments at the

Naval Observatory. Edwards indicates that it was also twenty-two years between the time that signals were recorded on the radio camera and 1946 when the world became very conscious of UFOs. This cyclic relationship could be coincidence but by 1964 signals were picked up from an area in space where in 1947 signals of a regular pattern had been picked up. The time lapse all appears to be within the twenty-two-year cycle. So far our scientists have not provided an explanation for this coincidental twenty-two-year cycle.

By 1965 the Russians had announced that Gennady Sholomitsky had been involved in studying a radio frequency emission pattern from CTA-102, the direction of the constellation Pegasus. Oddly enough, these signals are concentrated in that portion of the radio frequency spectrum that would be optimum for radio signal transmission across the vast distances of space.

This country's search by radio telescope for meaningful signals from outer space began with the National Science Foundation's project at Green Bank, West Virginia. It was known as Project Ozma. The project died in 1961 for what seemed to be little reason. But while it was functioning it investigated the possibility of rational signals emanating from the direction of two stars. Tau Ceti and Epsilon Eridani. These stars seem to be much like our own sun and are thought to have planet systems like our own. The signals from these two stars did indeed seem regular radio signals.

In 1964 a huge radio telescope at Arecibo, Puerto

Rico, went into operation. But the findings of this instrument are considered classified and are withheld from the public because the operation of the project is under the domain of the Air Force.

Professor Harold Weaver, Director of Radio Astronomy at the University of California, indicated a new trend in scientific thinking about the possibility of intelligent life in deep space when he asked: "How does it communicate?" And answered his own question: "It sends some of our own signals back to us. Maybe that is why we got those 'beeps' in Project Ozma."

"Mere flim-flam stories, and nothing but shams and lies"
—*Don Quixote*, Miguel de Cervantes

VII

The year 1947 seems to have been one of the most important years in the annals of UFO history. On June 24, 1947, Kenneth Arnold, businessman from Washington State, was piloting a plane from Chehalis, Washington, to Yakima, Washington. By the time he arrived in the vicinity of Mount Rainier it was three o'clock in the afternoon.

Arnold had heard that a Marine Corps C-46 transport plane was lost in the area somewhere around Mount Rainier, so he decided to look around with the hope of spotting the wreckage of the downed plane. As he looked down he suddenly noticed a series of bright flashes off to his left. When he took a closer look at the source of bright flashes he saw nine disc-shaped objects. They were strung out one behind the other and were traveling from north to south. He estimated that each object was about fifty feet long. They flew in reverse echelon and maneuvered in between the mountain peaks.

Arnold described the motion of the objects as a

"saucer skipping across the water." He noted the position of the objects on his map and the time it took for the flying objects to move from the position he had noted to another. When he landed at Yakima, he computed the speed of the unknown objects. It was almost 1700 miles per hour. He was looking at them from a distance of twenty- to twenty-five miles. The objects appeared to have traveled forty-seven miles in 102 seconds.

Arnold's report of what he had seen divided the investigators of ATIC into two groups. One group claimed that what Arnold had seen was in fact jet planes. They explained that the limitation of the human eye led Arnold to misinterpret what he had seen. They even had a rational explanation for the skipping motion of the flying objects and claimed it was an optical illusion resulting from the fact that Arnold looked at the objects through alternating layers of cold and warm air.

The other group at ATIC countered with the fact that Arnold knew where the objects were when he began to time them and that he was totally familiar with the area in which he was flying when he spotted them. This faction countered the other group's claim on the limitation of Arnold's visual acuity. They maintained that if he could see objects twenty- to twenty-five miles away the objects in question must have been 210 feet long instead of the fifty-foot length he reported. Members of this faction believed that Arnold had indeed seen a space ship.

What Arnold had seen has never been satisfactorily

explained. It remains classified as an unknown in official Air Force files.

It is the UFO sighting that is classified as an unknown that prompted Major General John A. Sanford, Director of Intelligence for Headquarters, Air Force, to comment at a press conference in 1952, "We keep on being concerned about them."

Arnold wasn't just some kook. He was a man of unquestionable character with long flying experience in the mountains. The Air Force couldn't very well disregard the report he had given them.

Shortly after Arnold's sighting a rash of reports concerning the sighting of UFOs flooded the Air Force. A good many of these came from pilots in the service, others from airline pilots and many from civilians.

The Air Force denied the existence of UFOs and ascribed the sightings to everything from run-away weather balloons to weather conditions and other natural phenomena. But the truth of the matter was that the high ranking officials at ATIC were confused. They first thought that UFOs originated from the Soviet Union, but too many sightings had come in that gave a clear indication that no plane could fly the way UFOs were reported to be flying. The Air Force's Aero Medical Laboratory said that no human being could take the violent maneuvers ascribed to UFOs.

It gradually developed that the investigators at ATIC did not doubt the existence of UFOs and turned their attention from Soviet Russia as their origin to the possibility of their coming from outer space. But

statements to the press came from Air Force officials in the Pentagon in which they made fools of themselves. *Life*, *Time* and *Newsweek* carried stories about UFOs, some of which were written with more than a bit of humor. But there were those who did not see anything funny in the reported sightings. One such man was a Veterans Administration psychiatrist who claimed that "too many people are seeing UFOs for them to be the product of mass hysterically induced hallucinations," which was another official Air Force explanation.

1948 was only seven days old when a National Guard pilot was killed while chasing a UFO. The incident occurred at the Godman Air Force Base just outside Louisville, Kentucky. The sequence of events that began the drama started with a telephone call from the Kentucky State Highway Patrol to the control tower at the Air Force base. The Highway Patrol questioned the possible presence of unusual aircraft in the vicinity. Several people in Marysville, Kentucky, a small town about eighty miles away, reported having seen some strange looking aircraft. Godman's answer was negative but they checked with Flight Service at Wright Patterson AFB. The answer there too was negative.

The first call from the Highway Patrol came at one-twenty in the afternoon. About twenty minutes later there was another call from the Highway Patrol. The UFO had been seen passing over the towns of Owensberg and Irvington, Kentucky. These towns were to the West of Louisville. The

details of the UFO were also given. It was circular, about 250 to 300 feet in diameter and moving at a good speed. Another check was made with Flight Service. The answer was still negative.

At one-forty-five the men in the Godman Control Tower saw the UFO. In short order not only the two men in the tower saw it but so did the base operations officer, the base intelligence officer and Colonel Hix, the base commander. None of them knew what it was. As they were watching it four F-51s came into view. They approached the base from the south.

The decision was made by the men in the control tower at Godman to have Captain Mantell take a look at the unidentified objects. Mantell and two of the other jets were vectored in on the flying object from the control tower because none of the pilots could see the unknown from where they were. The fourth plane landed because it was low on fuel. Mantell was ordered to fly south in the direction where the flying object was last seen.

The three planes went up to 10,000 feet. Captain Mantell was far out in front of the other two F-51s. It was two-forty-five when Mantell called the tower at Godman.

"I see something above and ahead of me and I'm still climbing," Mantell reported. "What the hell are you looking for?" one of his wingmen asked.

At this point the control tower asked Mantell what he was looking at. Strangely enough no one in the tower was able to remember exactly what

Mantell answered. He is reputed to have said something to the effect that he could see the object, that it looked metallic and was very large. He then informed the tower that he was climbing.

After a lapse of a few seconds Mantell's voice then came back on radio. Once again no one seems to have been able to remember his exact words.

He informed them that he was going up to 20,000 feet. Those who were in the tower agreed on the fact that Mantell did tell them he was going up to 20,000 feet but they did not agree on his description of the object he was chasing.

His two wingmen were still at 15,000 feet. They tried to raise him on the radio with no success. They started down to their base which was at Standford Field and is located north of Godman. One of the wingmen said that he saw a bright reflection on his canopy as he was descending. Once they had landed one of the two pilots had his jet refueled and went back up. This time the plane carried oxygen.

The Godman tower could no longer see the UFO. It was three-fifty in the afternoon. A few minutes later word came through that Mantell had crashed and was dead.

In the early evening of the same day that Mantell had crashed airfield towers all over the Midwest reported that they had seen a UFO. The UFO was always low on the horizon on the southwest and after a few minutes disappeared.

The Air Force claimed that the UFO in question

was the planet Venus. This explanation stood. About a year after the accident the Air Force released its official report on the causes of Captain Mantell's death.

The report said that the planet Venus might have been the cause or it could have been a large balloon. Perhaps two balloons. It may have been Venus, but on the day of the accident Venus was too dim to be seen in the afternoon.

The Air Force blundered badly with this explanation for two reasons: the first was that from the way the report was worded they didn't seem to know what really caused Mantell to crash and, secondly, the timing for the release of the report was as inept as it could possibly have been. Just a few weeks previous to the release of the report *The Saturday Evening Post* ran a two-part story by Sidney Shallet which stated the Venus theory as the definite cause of Mantell's crash. The Air Force report had certainly raised some doubts about that explanation.

When questioned again the Air Force officials reiterated their original stand. Mantell had died while chasing Venus and that was that.

That wasn't that at all. Mantell's death, like the ghost of Banquo, came back to plague them. The January 1950 issue of *True Magazine* carried an article by Donald E. Keyhoe entitled "The Flying Saucers are Real" which tore into the official explanation of what had caused Captain Mantell's death and the official explanation for UFOs. The article opened with four startling statements which are quoted in their entirety. They are as follows:

"1. For the past 175 years the planet Earth has been under systematic close range examination by living, intelligent observers from another planet.

"2. The intensity of this observation, and the frequency of the visits to the Earth's atmosphere by which it is being conducted, have increased markedly during the past two years.

"3. The vehicles used for this observation and for interplanetary transport by the explorers have been identified and categorized as follows: *Type I*, a small, nonpliot-carrying disk-shaped aircraft equipped with some form of television or impulse transmitter; *Type II*, a very large (up to 250 feet in diameter) metallic, disk-shaped aircraft operating on the helicopter principle; *Type III*, a dirigible-shaped, wingless aircraft which, in the Earth's atmosphere, operates in conformance with the Prandtl theory of lift.

"4. The discernible pattern of observations and exploration shown by the so-called "flying disks" varies in no important particular from well developed American plans for the exploration of space expected to come to fruition within the next fifty years There is reason to believe, however, that some other race of thinking beings is a matter of two and a quarter centuries ahead of us.

"4. The only other possible explanation is that the 'saucers' are extremely high-speed, long-range devices developed here on Earth. Such an advance (which the Air Force has convincingly denied) would require an almost incredible leap in technical progress even for American scientists . . ."

Keyhoe examines the facts of the Mantell case. To him it is inconceivable that Mantell would have risked blacking out. Mantell was an experienced World War II fighter pilot and knew what would happen if he went to an altitude beyond the limit of his endurance to live without oxygen. Mantell would have recognized all the signs of anoxia before blacking out. The author also says that if the object that Mantell was chasing was a balloon, it would have had to exceed Mantell's speed to keep ahead of him. Balloons don't do that. They drift as fast as the current of air is moving. Mantell as a wartime pilot surely would have been able to identify a balloon, Keyhoe claims. He also points out that the F-51 Mantell flew was "a sturdy war-tested fighter" that, according to the engineers and pilots questioned, would not have disintegrated in a dive from 20,000 feet as thoroughly as Mantell's plane had. One engineer made the point that a pilotless plane does not necessarily dive. The engineer said: "It (the plane) might slip off and spin, or spiral down, and a few have even landed themselves."

Keyhoe then got the opinion of several of the men whom he had questioned that as Mantell came down into "thicker air" he would have come to. The men familiar with the F-51 were not at all sure that Mantell was dead before he hit the ground. One man even stated that it looked like a "cover-up to the real truth of what had happened to Captain Mantell."

In 1952 Mantell's ghost was still rattling around, so much so that the Pentagon requested a further explanation of the situation. At this time Edward J. Ruppelt, who was in on the initial investigation of Man-

tell's crash and was then head of the ATIC UFO investigation project known as Blue Book. He began the long tedious job of reviewing what was known about Mantell's crash.

He interviewed Dr. J. Allen Hynek, the head of the Ohio State University Astronomy Department in order to ascertain exactly where the planet Venus was on the day and at the time of the sighting. At three o'clock in the afternoon on the day that Mantell chased the UFO, Venus was south-southwest of the Godman Control Tower and thirty-three degrees above the horizon.

The difference between the height of Venus as given by the astronomical tables and the height of the UFO reported by the men in the control tower at Godman was close enough to allow for an error in human judgment. In that case the UFO was indeed the planet Venus. But Ruppelt immediately saw the flaw in the Venus theory. The planet wasn't bright enough to be seen at that time of day. He had Dr. Hynek compute the planet's brightness for that day and time. Venus was six times as bright as the surrounding sky. Dr. Hynek agreed that the UFO could not have been the planet Venus since Venus would have been just a pin-point of light surrounded by an intensely bright afternoon sky.

Ruppelt tracked down the possibility of Mantell's having encountered a huge weather balloon or a balloon associated with other government projects. There were none reported in the area on January 7, 1948, yet because he could not neglect the possibility that a large balloon might have been in the area where Mantell

crashed, he told the people at ATIC that it could have been a balloon.

As I read the accounts of Mantell's conversation with the control tower at Godman, I was struck by what appears to be a small discrepancy between what Ruppelt reported in his book *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects* and what Keyhoe's version of the same conversation was. Ruppelt said that little of what Mantell had said was clearly remembered by the men in the tower except for Mantell's saying "I am going up to 20,000 feet." Keyhoe's version of the radio exchange between the tower and Mantell is much more extensive. Mantell was reported to have called the tower at three-fifteen to report that he was not gaining on the object and that if he were no closer to it when he reached 20,000 feet he would abandon the chase. These statements are not treated as a direct quote in the article.

The other discrepancy between the two versions of the same incident concerns the altitude at which Mantell's wingmen broke off the chase. Ruppelt reports that both wingmen leveled off at fifteen thousand feet and returned to their base. Keyhoe's version is that they went up with Mantell to 18,000 feet before turning back.

The significance of these minor differences between the two versions of the same incident lies in the fact that Mantell never radioed that he had reached 20,000 feet and had abandoned the chase. If Mantell had been alive when he reached 20,000 feet he would have immediately notified the tower at Godman. The possibility then arises that Mantell never did reach 20,000

feet and that whatever happened occurred below that altitude and 15,000 feet or 18,000 feet.

It also seems more probable that his wingmen did not go up to 18,000 feet because his wingmen had been unable to raise Mantell when they had reached 15,000 feet. It therefore seems probable that Mantell ran into difficulty between fifteen thousand and twenty thousand feet. The nature of the difficulty is open to question but whatever it was it *distintegrated* Mantell's F-51 so that wreckage of the aircraft was spread over a wide area.

The Air Force never made pictures of Mantell's crash public or gave any information on the condition of Mantell's body. I think it is a fair assumption to say that the Air Force had and still has reasons for not releasing either photographs or information on the crash. To take this a step further, I would hazard a guess that the wreckage of Mantell's plane was not like the usual wreckage resulting from the impact of a plane with the earth.

"Before my God, I might not this believe
Without the sensible and true avouch
Of my own eyes"
Hamlet, Act I, Sc. I

VIII

By the summer of 1948 ATIC had made an "estimate of the situation." The situation in this case was the various reports concerning UFOs that were sighted. The one report of a UFO that seemed to rock the brass of the Air Force more than any other was that made by Captain Clarence S. Chiles and his co-pilot, John B. Whitted on July 24th of that year. Airline pilots have a reputation for being cool men who would not allow their imaginations to run wild with them. Beside the men at the controls of the DC-3, one of its passengers did see a "strange, eerie streak of light, very intense."

The Air Force's Estimate of the Situation was contained in a voluminous report on the sighting of UFOs that were made and examined by ATIC investigators. Some of them could be explained in terms of whether conditions, balloons or other type of phenomena but all too many of the sightings could not be explained.

The report concluded that UFOs were indeed real and that in all probability the UFOs came from outer space. The report was marked: TOP SECRET.

At the time that the Air Force's Estimate of the Situation was on its way up through channels, Second Lieutenant George F. Gorman of the North Dakota Air National Guard had a dog fight with a UFO.

On October 1st, at eight-thirty in the evening, Gorman was approaching Fargo, North Dakota, from a cross-country flight. At about nine o'clock he called the tower for landing instructions. He was informed by the tower that a Piper Cub was in the area. Gorman spotted the Cub. It was below him. Then he saw what appeared to be the tail light on another plane. It passed him off to his right. He contacted the tower but was told that he and the Cub were the only planes in the area. The light was still visible to him.

He decided to take a closer look at it. He maneuvered his F-51 into a position where the light was directly in front of him. The Cub was clearly outlined by the lights from the city. He could see nothing outlined where the light was. He closed to within one thousand yards of the light. He estimated the light was six to eight inches in diameter, that it was sharply outlined and that it blinked on and off.

The light suddenly stopped blinking and became steady; it pulled into a sharp left bank and made a pass at the tower. Then it zoomed up. Gorman went after it. At an altitude of 7,000 feet it turned. Gor-

man tried to cut inside the light's turn but was unable to. It swung around until it and Gorman were on a collision course. Gorman was forced to dive in order to avoid being rammed. The two came at each other again. Once more Gorman was forced to dive to avoid a collision. The light suddenly began to climb and then it disappeared.

Gorman told Air Force investigators that the UFO he had chased was controlled by an intelligence of some kind. The pilot of the Cub, his passenger and two men in the tower saw the light that Gorman had described but none of them were able to say that they were witness to the maneuvers Gorman described.

Keyhoe's variation of the same incident is included in the same article in which he wrote about Mantell. He has several details that other accounts lack. According to Keyhoe, Gorman's plane went into a power stall at 14,000 feet and at one time during the encounter with the UFO Gorman blacked out.

If Gorman's plane did go into a power stall, the question that comes to mind is: why? Gorman was too experienced a pilot to bring his plane into a position where it would stall out, especially under conditions which he himself described. Since the Gorman incident there have been other encounters with UFOs in which the presence of the UFO seems to have had a definite effect on the power capabilities of everything ranging from a car to a city. Perhaps the UFO Gorman chased caused his stall?

As to Keyhoe's statement that Gorman blacked out,

this could have been the, case especially since Gorman tried several times to get on the inside of the turn made by the UFO.

Official reports on UFO sightings include one that took place four years later on the 21st of June near the AEC's Oak Ridge plant. This time the UFO was picked up by radar and an F-48 was vectored in on the target. The F-47 closed in on the UFO and between 10,000 feet and 27,000 feet the UFO and F-47 engaged in aerial tactics similar to those described by Gorman. The pilot defined the light as being very bright and six to eight inches in diameter. The light was blinking until the UFO put the power on.

A third encounter between a UFO and an Air Force plane bore striking similarities to Gorman's account of what had happened. This contact occurred in December of 1952. Once again it was near an atomic laboratory, the Hanford Plant located in the state of Washington. The UFO was spotted by a patrolling F-94 at an altitude of 26,000 feet. The plane's crew contacted the ground station. They were told that no other planes were in the area. When they closed on the object they saw a large, round, white "thing" with a reddish light emanating from what seemed to be two windows. The UFO went through the same maneuvers that Gorman had described. The pilot was forced to change course several times in order to avoid a collision.

As Ruppelt states, "In each of these instances . . . the sources of the stories were trained airmen with excellent reputations. They were sincerely baffled by

what they had seen. They had no conceivable motive for falsifying or "dressing up" their reports.

One of the most interesting stories to evolve in the documentation of UFO sightings was presented by Edward Ruppelt in his book *The Report on Unidentified Objects*. It is interesting because he states that it was part of a secret report which was ordered destroyed by other officers at the base where it occurred and because it clearly shows how personalities often get in the way of honest investigations. The report in essence was as follows:

A radar station near the Air Force base picked up an unidentified target traveling at seven hundred miles an hour. The target slowed to one hundred miles an hour. From where the target showed on radar the operators knew it was over a sparsely settled area. The radar operators could tell its azimuth heading and speed but because their radar was not equipped with an altitude indicator they were not able to tell how high it was.

Two F-86s were scrambled and vectored in on the target. The target on the ground radar began to fade. The radar operators thought that it might have moved below the radar beam or be too high above it. The two F-86s went to 40,000 feet. The target was lost by the ground radar. One F-86 went down to 5,000 feet and the other to 20,000 feet to search for the target. The pilot who had gone down to 5,000 feet noticed a flash below and ahead of him. He aimed his ship at the spot where he had seen the

light. He saw what he first thought was a weather balloon. He soon realized that it wasn't a balloon because it always stayed ahead of him. He was at 3,000 feet and traveling at about seven hundred miles per hour. He closed with the UFO until he was within 1,000 yards. "From above the UFO did look like a balloon but on closer examination it appeared to be a doughnut without a hole."

The UFO began to accelerate. The pilot started to follow. He also tried to contact the other pilot but received no answer. He was unable to contact the controller in the tower. He made another try to raise the other pilot. He closed to within 500 yards of the UFO. At a range of 1,000 yards he fired at it. The UFO went up into a steep climb and in a few seconds it was gone. The pilot of the F-86 went up to 10,000 feet. He was now able to make contact with the other pilot. They both returned to the base.

As a result of a personality clash between the pilot who had made the sighting of the UFO and the squadron commander, the pilot was accused of "cracking up" or of just "shooting his guns for the hell of it and using the wild story as a cover up."

The report was destroyed. It was never even sent to the project responsible for investigating UFO sightings. The group commander and his executive officer thought it would be in the best interests of all concerned to have the report destroyed . . . and so it was!

"I do not understand, I pause; I examine"
Michel de Montaigne

IX

The March 1950 issue of *True Magazine* ran an article entitled "How Scientists Tracked a Flying Saucer." The author of the article was Commander Robert B. McLaughlin, USN. The incident occurred on a Sunday morning in April 1949 at a place located fifty-seven miles from the White Sands Proving Grounds. The group was interested in obtaining weather data and its members were busy charting the flight of the balloon that carried the group. A theodolite's telescope was used to follow the progress of the balloon.

> The man on the theodolite suddenly swung the instrument off his target. A UFO that was visible to everyone had crossed the balloon's path. One of the other men started to track the UFO with the theodolite. The course of the UFO was plotted and recorded. McLaughlin made the following statements recording the physical shape and speed of the

UFO. He said that the object when viewed in cross section was elliptical in shape; it was about 105 feet in diameter; it was flying at an altitude of 25 miles in a period of 10 seconds; the object was visible for sixty seconds; it disappeared at an elevation of twenty-nine degrees.

McLaughlin calculated that in order for the UFO to change its altitude to the extent it had in the short period of time, the UFO would have been subjected to twenty times the pull of gravity. No human could stand that force and live to tell about it.

McLaughlin shot down the theory that it might have been a meteor by citing the fact that meteors remain in sight for a period of ten to twelve seconds at most. The object that he and the other men watched was in full view for sixty seconds.

The size of the object ruled out the possibility of it having been a bird or other type of living creature. It was obvious that a cloud would not move in the type of trajectory that had been plotted for the UFO. A balloon was also ruled out because the UFO traveled at 1,700 miles per hour. As for the UFO's having been a hallucination, if it had been, would five different well-trained men see the same thing? It seemed doubtful; it still does.

McLaughlin made the following statement: "I am convinced that it was a flying saucer and further that these disks are space ships from another planet, operated by animate, intelligent beings."

In another section of the same article McLaughlin writes:

> "I think that the Saucers are piloted space ships, first because of their flight performance. The White Sands Saucers were most definitely capable of changing their direction while above our atmosphere. This extreme maneuverability—plus their large size—eliminates for me the likelihood of their being operated by remote control."

On April 5, 1948 another UFO was sighted at the White Sands Proving Grounds. This time it flashed across a bright afternoon sky. It was disc shaped and appeared to be about one-fifth the size of a full moon.

Astrophysicist Dr. Donald Menzel explained what McLaughlin saw was the refracted image of the balloon he and the other men were tracking. Oddly enough the civilian company who were involved in the project didn't believe it was the refracted image of the balloon. They weren't prepared to say what it was.

The Navy made no comment on the sightings though McLaughlin had written a full report of what he had seen, leaving out his own opinions which were in the article *True* had published. The Navy's answer to McLaughlin's report was: "What are you drinking out there?"

Beside visual sightings made by members of the military, a great many UFOs have been picked up and tracked by radar. The accuracy of a radar determina-

tion is not only dependent on the equipment but a great deal of what can be interpreted from a scope presentation depends on the experience of the operator. Radar will often be distorted by ground clutter, cloud formations and weather conditions. All of these can give images on the scope. It is then up to the operator to determine what is a real target and what is not. From my own experience during the Korean War, I remember when my unit's radar mistook a B-36 coming in for a landing at Briggs Air Force Base outside of El Paso, Texas, for the target sleeve. In a matter of moments sixteen one-hundred-and-twenty-millimeter guns were blasting away. Luckily we were still inexperienced and our firing was inordinately bad or we would have shot down the B-36.

On January 22, 1952 at a radar outpost in Northern Alaska the following situation took place.

A target was picked up at an altitude of 23,000 feet. It was traveling at a speed of 1,500 miles per hour. An F-94 was scrambled to intercept the target. The radar crew began to vector the F-94 toward the target, and soon had them both on the screen. Then the target slowed down, changing its course, and headed directly for the radar station. When the target was 30 miles from the station the radar operator switched to a shorter range beam and lost the target and the F-94.

A second F-94 was sent up while the first searched the area. When the second plane was in the target area the first F-94 returned to its base. The second

pilot reported a weak target on his radar off to the right and at an altitude of 28,000 feet. The F-94 swung around toward the target which the pilot reported to be motionless. Then the target made a sudden dive and was lost.

A third F-94 was scrambled. The third plane got within two hundred yards of the target. The target remained motionless. The plane made several passes at it but each time broke away at a range of two hundred yards. At the fourth pass the target sped out of range and was lost.

Officials at ATIC accepted the word of an officer who was a radar expert and chalked up the sighting to be the result of weather conditions but the officer who had been up at the radar station when the sighting took place didn't believe that the images on the scope were caused by weather. He said that he was inclined to believe "that they (the images) were something real. Somthing that we just don't know about."

The Air Force has often stated publicly that it has never been able to pick up, track and identify a UFO on its radar network anywhere in the world. Perhaps the concept of UFOs disturbs the officials too much for them to use it but it would be very hard to believe that Air Force radar is able to identify every unknown target anywhere in the world. If the Air Force's claim is absolutely truthful it is indeed a remarkable feat. But somehow the statement seems out of proportion to what the truth is. For example, in the summer of 1952, when the Democratic Convention was taking place in

Washington, the visual and radar sightings of UFOs caused quite a flurry of excitement. That year and at that time there were several sightings of UFOs on several different occasions.

One of these sightings took place on July 26th about ten-thirty at night. The radar involved in these sightings was the two-foot-dish type used at the Washington International Airport. As soon as the operators had picked up the UFOs they contacted the radar station at Andrews AFB. They had already picked up the UFOs. At eleven-thirty that same night several jet interceptors were scrambled. Several of the jets had made radar contact with the UFOs but in all cases the contact was lost after a few seconds. On Sunday morning one of the pilots who chased the UFOs was Lieutenant William Patterson. He told the members of the press at an interview:

> "I tried to make contact with the bogies below 1,000 but they (the radar controllers) vectored us around. I saw several bright lights. I was at my maximum speed, but even then I had no closing speed. I ceased chasing them because I saw no chance of overtaking them. I was vectored into new objects. Later I chased a single bright light which I estimated about ten miles away. I lost visual contact with it after two miles."

There are many, many radar sightings of UFOs in the Air Force files but the brass prefer to ignore what their pilots have told them, what their radar operators have spotted. They do this in order to continue the

line that they had originally adopted for public release: UFOs are the result of weather conditions, birds, balloons or hallucinations. Therefore, whenever a radar sighting of a bird, balloon or a hallucination takes place they scramble jet interceptors to go after it—WHY?

"One event happeneth to them all"
Ecclesiastes 11, 14

X

EVERY YEAR hundreds of thousand of people fly for business or pleasure. The men who captain the huge aircraft have a reputation for being individuals with excellent judgment, professional integrity and the ability to face emergency situations with courage and calmness which has often meant the difference between disaster and safety. Airline pilots by the hundreds have reported sighting UFOs.

In July 1947 a United Airlines pilot flying near Emmet, Idaho, made the following report:

> "Five 'somethings' which were thin and smooth on the bottom and rough-appearing on the top, were seen silhouetted against the sunset shortly after the plane took off from Boise at 8:04 p.m. We saw them clearly. We followed them in a northeasterly direction for about 45 miles. They finally disappeared. We were unable to tell whether they disappeared or disintegrated. We can't say whether they were

'smearlike,' oval or anything else but whatever they were they were not aircraft, clouds or smoke."

The story of an encounter between a UFO and a Varig Airlines C-46 cargo plane en route to Sao Paulo from Porto Alegre is now part of UFO history. On the night of November 3, 1957 the C-46 was flying at an altitude of 7,000 feet. At the plane's controls was Captain Jean V. de Beyssac, the airlines' chief pilot.

Somewhere about one-thirty in the morning the pilot spotted an unfamiliar red light. It was below the plane and to the left. He pointed it out to his co-pilot. The red light began to close at high speed. De Beyssac banked the ship toward the light. Oddly enough it moved in the same direction. They were now on a collision course. Before the pilot could alter his course he became aware of the strong odor of something burning. The plane's fire indicator did not register the presence of fire. The two men checked their equipment. The radio transmitter in the right engine generator and aerial direction finder system was burned out. The pilot turned the plane around and returned to Porto Alegre.

After 1954 pilots flying routes over the continental United States and those flying for American carriers with overseas routes were no longer free to release their sightings to the press. Through the efforts of the Air Force, with the cooperation of the Airline Pilots Association, it was agreed that commercial pilots would not release any more information about the

sightings of UFOs to the press. Instead all reports were to be channeled to the Air Force. This step was taken by the Air Force for the public good. It was also taken because the airline pilots were a major source of UFO information. As early as 1952 the Joint Service Regulations prevented military personnel from speaking to members of the press about visual or radar sightings of UFOs.

No matter how tight the lid on truth is shut it always has a way of slipping free and embarrassing those who would keep it in place. United Airline Flight 193 was en route along the coast of California. Captain J. N. Schidel was at the controls. The time was just before midnight, April 4, 1954. Suddenly something rushed past the plane.

> The pilot later explained that the object that had just missed hitting his plane did not have running lights. After it had passed the plane Schidel saw a bright red light flash on the object's side to his right. To avoid a collision he pulled hard back on the controls and brought the airliner up into a steep climbing turn away from the object. The condition of the stewardess and several passengers required that Schidel radio for medical assistance to be available at the field when he put down. The story of what happened could not be kept away from the reporters.

Whenever a commercial airliner has been forced to make some violent maneuver to avoid a crash, several passengers usually needed minor medical attention.

Because of this, the incident becomes part of the next day's news and the public learns that another UFO has been seen.

Not all the people who sight UFOs are familiar with the skies. In fact, most of the sightings have been made by ordinary people who go about their daily lives in whatever capacity they happen to be. Most of the sightings have been made by individuals who up until the time they saw a UFO were only vaguely aware of their existence. The opening chapters of this book give a good indication of the basic unfamiliarity most people have with the subject of UFOs. The recent sightings that gained the national spotlight were the ones made at Exeter and Dexter Township in Michigan.

The sightings at Exeter were meticulously explored in John G. Fuller's book *Incident at Exeter* while those made in Michigan received widespread newspaper and magazine coverage.

The first report of a UFO at Exeter came from a young man named Norman Muscarello. He told the patrolman on duty at the Exeter Police Station that he had seen a UFO. He called it a "Thing." It came right out of the sky toward him. He said it was 80 to 90 feet in diameter. It had brilliant red pulsating lights around its rim. He described its movement but said that it made no noise as it moved. He felt as if it were chasing him and dove below a road shoulder for protection. Finally it backed off and hovered over the top of a nearby farmhouse. When it was far enough away the young man made a dash for the house.

Muscarello returned to the place where he had

seen the UFO but he was not alone. He had convinced the officer on duty to send someone with him. That man was Patrolman Eugene Bertrand. When Muscarello spotted the UFO he began to yell. Bertrand saw it too. It was round, brilliant red. It made no sound. Bertrand radioed back to headquarters: "My God. I see the damn thing myself."

Phone calls from other individuals who had sighted the UFO began to come in to the police station at Exeter. It was clear that various people had seen something quite strange and thus began the chain of events that lead John G. Fuller to Exeter and gave him the material for his book. After examining the events at Exeter and some of the past history of UFOs Mr. Fuller ends his work with the following call for action:

> "In the light of recent developments the situation has reached the point where it appears to be the duty and responsibility of the Government either to reveal what it knows or to order a scientific investigation on a major scale and report the findings immediately to the public at large."

The sightings of UFOs in Michigan did not receive the full dress treatment that those at Exeter had but the April 1, 1966 issue of *Life Magazine* did carry a story about them, complete with photographs taken in this country and abroad of what were reputed to be UFOs. The article was written by Paul O'Neil. The description of the UFO as seen by Frank Mannor and his son Ronnie is as follows:

"The *Thing* seemed as long as an automobile and wore a green light at one end and a white light at the other. Its back was humped and looked grayish or bluish-brown and was *quilted* or rough *like coral rock*. It seemed to be sitting eight or ten feet off the ground in a patch of mist. *Like a man in a boat on a misty morning -you see the man, but you can't quite make out the boat*. Suddenly it turned blood red."

O'Neil wrote that "Dexter Patrolman Robert Hunawill saw a *strange lighted object* over his car. It had red and white lights *which at times had a bluish tinge* and made continual sweeps over the swamp at the height of 1,000 feet and then, on being joined by three other *objects*, flew away."

Beside the Mannors and Hunawill there were many other persons who saw the UFO, including the Dexter Police Chief Robert Taylor and Patrolman Nolan Lee and two county deputy sheriffs.

The second part of *Life's* coverage is given over to a report by Bill Wise from Dayton, Ohio, where the Air Force maintains its headquarters for Project Blue Book, whose job it is to investigate UFO reports. In brief the report says that the Air Force doesn't believe that UFOs exist but because they are still open-minded people they will continue to investigate all reported sightings. The question naturally comes to mind that if one doesn't believe in something, why bother to investigate it?

Perhaps it is just coincidence, but the description of what was seen by the crew on a United Airlines

plane, near Emmet, Idaho, in July 1947 seems to come close to what Frank Mannor saw in Dexter Township. The description of the Pilot and Mannors agree on the appearance of the top of the UFO. Both described it as rough looking. Frank Mannors drew a sketch of what he had seen. From it and the description of the top of the UFO a good case could be made for stating that the underside was smooth. The pilot who saw the UFO in 1947 was looking at it from a distance while Frank Mannors had the opportunity to observe it from close range.

Is it possible that both of these men were suffering from overworked imaginations? Possible, yes, but not at all, as the expression goes, probable.

"Stood at the parting of the way"
Ezekiel XXI, 21

XI

When the Conquistadores landed in Mexico the Aztecs took them for gods. To them the galleons with their white sails seemed to be the large bird that would, as their myths told them, come down from the sky and with it would also come a race of gods. The Conquistadores proved to be anything but God-like and before the Aztecs realized their mistake it was too late to do anything except die.

There are many legends in the various cultures of both north European and Mediterranean peoples that tell of people coming down from the sky to marry with earth people. The one we are most familiar with is that which is told in Genesis 6:4 and Genesis 19:3.

In Genesis (6:4) we are told that a mating took place between earth women and men from the sky. This interpretation is pagan rather than Hebraic. Later writers such as Philo and the author of the Book of Jubilees perpetuated the myth of the inter-marriage between a sky race and an earth race.

In Genesis (19:3) the reference to angels is ambiguous. According to the Hebraic tradition it refers to the visitors but does not give any indication of their origin.

The disillusion and death which the Aztecs suffered at the hands of the Spanish is part of the history of man's greed and lust for blood. The Bible and other mythical treatment of visitations by man-like creatures from the sky is part of our rich heritage as human beings—or is it more? To some individuals it is much more because they claim to have actually seen not only the UFO on the ground but the kind of life inside the ship.

If one makes the basic assumption that UFOs are real, then it would have to follow that they have come here for a purpose. There appears to be no logical reason why individuals on some distant planet would be interested in taking a journey of many light years to a place located in a different solar system unless they had a reason. The reason could simply be exploration in the same way man is beginning to explore space. It could also be for more sinister reasons such as conquest or as a source of something we have here on earth which they on their distant world need.

Those who doubt the reality of UFOs point out that at no time has a UFO or whatever is in it made an attempt to communicate with man. Communication between two beings presupposes a common desire to communicate and a manner of achieving it which would be understandable by both parties. Why must we assume that anyone coming to earth would want

to communicate with man? After all, if the earth has been under observation for several centuries, as some scientists claim, then man might seem to the observer a most hostile form of life. There are also those who expect a visitor from outer space to have full command of the English language or the language of the country in which the UFO happens to land. I think we tend to extend the logic of our world and its ways to those worlds which possibly exist in deep space. Yet the answer could be exactly what Dr. Harold Weaver suggested when he commented that they (those worlds in outer space) are indeed speaking to us when they repeat the signals we have beamd to them.

There have been many instances closer in time to our own day in which a UFO was sighted on the ground or close to it and beings from the UFO were visible.

Alexander Hamilton's sworn statement of April 21, 1879 leaves no doubt that indeed he did see some form of life. His exact words were: ". . . it was occupied by six of the strangest beings I ever saw." At the end of his statement he wrote: "But every time I would drop off to sleep I would see that cursed thing, with its big lights and hideous people. Idon't know whether they are devils or angels or what; but we all saw them, and my whole family saw the ship and I don't want anything more to do with them."

Even closer to us is the sighting that took place on November 2, 1957 at Loveland, Texas. That night a UFO settled down on Highway 116 and the two men,

Pedro Saucedo and Joe Salav not only had the engine of their truck fail but heard voices which they could not understand.

From the number of reports that exist of UFO landings, it would be safe to say that landings have been and are a possibility. The sighting made in Sorcorro, New Mexico, seems to indicate that UFOs do land. Sergeant Zamora described in great detail the humanoid creatures he saw. He also described the odd insignia on the side of the craft.

Perhaps one of the most interesting encounters with a UFO took place on November 4, 1957 in Brazil. In that particular situation soldiers of the Brazilian Army were involved. It happened at Fort Itaipu. The two sentries on guard duty saw a larg disk-like object surrounded by an orange glow slowly drift toward the earth. One of the men involved claimed he heard a low but high-pitched whining. Then both men were struck by a blast of tremendous heat. The air became filled with a humming sound. Both men were badly burned. The power for the fort went off. The following day the commanding officer issued orders restricting all discussion of the event.

The documentation on landings of UFOs is voluminous. There are on record encounters between the man who made the sightings and the humanoids who emerged from the UFO. One such encounter took place on the night of December 16, 1954, not too far from Caracas, Venezuela, in which two young men physically grappled with small, hairy men. The police would have ignored the report made by the men if it

had not been witnessed and verified by a well known Caracas physician who happened to be on a night call.

No one country had a monopoly on the sightings of UFOs. The following account appeared in the newspaper *The Stuttgarter Tageblatt.*

> Oslo, Norway, September 4, 1955:—Only now a board of inquiry of the Norwegian General Staff is preparing publication of a report on the examination of remains of a U.F.O. crashed near Spitzbergen, presumably early in 1952. Chairman of the Board, Colonel Gernod Darnbyl, during an instruction for Air Force officers stated: "The crashing of the Spitzbergen disc was highly important. Although our present scientific knowledge does not permit us to solve all the riddles, I am confident that these remains from Spitzbergen will be of utmost importance in this respect. Some time ago a misunderstanding was caused by saying that this disc probably was of Soviet origin. *It has— this we wish to state emphatically—not been built by any country on earth.* The materials used in its construction are completely unknown to all experts who participated in the investigation."
>
> According to Colonel Darnbyl, the Board of Inquiry is not going to publish an extensive report "until some sensational facts have been discussed with U.S. and British experts. We should reveal what we found out, as misplaced secrecy might lead to panic."
>
> Contrary to information from American and

other sources, Second Lieutenants Brobs and Tyllensen, who have been assigned as special observers of the Arctic regions since the event at Spitzbergen, report that flying discs have landed in the polar regions several times. Said Lieutenant Tyllensen: "I think that the Arctic is serving as a kind of air base for the unknowns, especially during snowstorms when we are forced back to our bases. I have seen them land and take off on three separate occasions. I notice that, after having landed, they execute a speedy rotation around their discs. A brilliant glow of light, the intensity of which is variable with regard to speed at landing and at take-off, prevents any view of the things happening behind this curtain of light and on or inside the disc itself."

There is also the story carried by a newspaper in Melbourne, Australia, for May 30, 1963: *Three Astronomers See Saucer.* The article explained that Dr. Bart Bok at the Mt. Stromlo Observatory, Canberra, Australia, in the company of two other astronomers, followed a UFO with a telescope. All three described the object as circular, being luminous with an orange color and going too slow to be a meteor. There was no doubt in their minds that it was man made.

Sightings, both visual and those made by radar, do not constitute the only proof of the existence of UFOs. In 1952 Lieutenant Commander Frank Thompson of the Navy Department told of the recovery of a fragment of a UFO. After the Bureau of Standards failed to identify it the fragment was sent to W. B.

Smith of Ottawa, Canada, for further analysis by the group there which was responsible for examining the problem of UFOs. Wilbert Smith said on January 11, 1959 before the Regional Conference of Illuminating Engineers in Ottawa: "Various items of *hardware* are known to exist, but are usually clapped into security and are not available to the general public." He was speaking about UFOs at the time.

In a private interview he later stated that about a ton and a half of an unknown metallic substance does exist. He further commented that he showed a fragment of a UFO to Admiral H. B. Knowles. Then he said that he was ordered to return to the United States the fragment which was originally sent to him for analysis. The order originated with a group that was higher than Air Force Intelligence. He left it up to the men who were interviewing him to make any conjectures they wished as to whether or not that group could have been the CIA.

So far the weight of evidence presented in this book has been toward proving the reality of UFOs. No doubt for each sighting there is an explanation which would indicate that a UFO was not involved. The Air Force has stated it cannot explain over six hundred sightings that it has in its files. If only one such sighting couldn't be explained it would tend to raise questions about a good many of those that have already been explained.

Jacques Vallee, in his book *Anatomy of a Phenomenon,* takes issue with the method that the Air Force uses to determine which reports it should investigate

and which it should disregard. The Air Force is only interested in those reports which come from a competent observer and contain a reasonable amount of data.

The word competent would rule out Susan. She is only an eleven-year-old girl. It might also rule out Kathy Finch. But both these girls were able to supply a good description of what they saw. Bruce Fields might not pass the test either even though his description is classic in nature. It appears that the Air Force is more than willing to disregard as many reports as possible.

"Science falsely so called"
1 *Timothy* VI, 20

XII

OBJECTIVE INVESTIGATION of UFOs has not only been hampered by whatever makes men disbelieve their findings but in addition it has gathered to itself a host of quacks. These producers of fraudulent moon trips or Martian travel adventures not only becloud the issue but make money doing it.

Recently on a well known night show on television the authoress of *My Venusian Lover* was interviewed for the benefit of millions of TV watchers No doubt some laughed at her but there were those who didn't, whose psychological make-up responded to the phantasy of what the woman had to say to the point where they would be willing to buy her book.

The August issue of *Flying Saucer News* published out of New York, not only listed for sale books by reputable people such as Jacques Vallee and Donald Keyhoe but included in the same list books by Adamski, Michael X and other authors whose work leaves much to be desired.

Adamski claimed that he was able to communicate

with the visitor from outer space by means of telepathy. Orthon, said Adamski, was concerned about the radiations from our nuclear tests. He told Adamski that the ship he was using was only a scout-type craft used to travel between earth and a mother ship. Adamski had previously photographed the mother ship. The Venusian did not hesitate to reveal that the mother ship used magnetic energy to move through space. Orthon told Adamski that the people on his planet follow the laws of the Creator and not the laws of materialism which serve the people on earth. When Orthon finally left, Adamski was the earth's self-appointed ambassador to outer space.

Who was George Adamski? What was he? Not too much is known about him. He was, so he claimed, the offspring of a Polish father and an Egyptian mother. He admitted to never having a day of formal schooling. Sometime before 1928 he served two hitches in the army. After that he taught philosophy in Los Angeles. By 1933 he was engaged in teaching Oriental Philosophy. He took for himself the title of Professor.

After Adamski's contact with Orthon he was privileged to meet other Venusians. During one of these encounters he was the first earth man to ride a UFO. He went to within 40,000 miles of the moon. His hosts allowed him to look at their bases on the moon through a television scanner. Adamski not only saw the bases but he saw forests as well. Later on, while on a lecture tour in Australia, Adamski said he met a space woman. He went on to say that there are many people from outer space who live in the pose of being earthlings. Adamski even had an audience with Queen

Juliana of the Netherlands. Over 100,000 people heard him lecture and forty-five million heard and saw him on television.

Adamski, if nothing else, was a consummate showman. He was smart enough to see the financial potential in UFOs.

There are even those people who lay claim to having been born on another planet. Two such individuals call themselves Prince Neosam and Princess Neogonna who were born, so they say, on the planet Tythan. Their mission here is to save the people on earth. Tythan is supposed to be eight and a half light years away from the earth. The Prince claims he is 251 years old but some thirty-three years ago he was left a baby on somebody's doorstep. The Princess is only 241 years old. The Prince, whose earth name is Lee Childers, says that there will be a shift in the earth's axis within the next year and our civilization will be totally destroyed. He offers the possibility of being saved only if mankind will go with the space ships that will be standing by to take the survivors to Tythan.

Prince Neosam and Princess Neogonna were guests at a convention of the Amalgamated Flying Saucer Clubs of America at the Los Angeles Statler Hilton Hotel. At this same convention the participants were privileged to hear the taped voice of a Martian who said: "I am Mom-ka. I am speaking to you from the planet Mars." The recording was made by Richard (Dick) Miller, a sometime electronics technician. Mr. Miller claimed that he has been in contact with the Martian owner of the voice and with other people from outer space since 1954. Miller and another man

established the Solar Cross Foundation which has as its main objective the distribution of Mom-ka's messages. The tapes sell from $4.50 per copy.

Another claimant of extra-terrestrial origin is a Britisher whose earthly name is George King but who claims he is from the fifth sector of the planet Mars. King is also the founder of a society. His society is named Atherius. He writes for the *Cosmic Voice*. Naturally he had had contact with men from outer space.

The convention in Los Angeles was overflowing with members who made several trips hither, thither and yon in the near and far reaches of space. There is no way to stop these people but like quack doctors who promise cures for cancer with special mud packs or spark machines, people who speak about their experience on the fertile plains of Venus are in effect damaging the serious work of discovering more than what is now known about UFOs.

Beside those who maintain a direct relationship to men from outer space, there are those who make the claim of having inside information about individuals who learned too much about UFOs. Gray Baker in his book *They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers* gives several hundred pages of what is supposed to be authentic documentation about people who were visited by three unidentified men who warned them not to tell all they knew about UFOs.

The book is peopled with strange creatures from outer space, with even stranger theories about the growth of the South Polar ice cap and what to do about it. All in all it is a work designed to titillate the

imagination of those individuals who react to horror stories but are too fascinated to totally reject them from the realm of possibility.

Unfortunately, there are times when quacks produce results that closely approximate the truth. One such case is referred to as the Maury Island Mystery. Indirectly the result of this prank caused the death of two Air Force officers in 1947.

> The mystery started when an officer in the Air Force received a call from a man who claimed that two Tacoma Harbor patrolmen had sighted a UFO and one of them had seen a UFO throw out chunks of metal. The caller claimed he was in possession of some of the metal fragments. When the Air Force investigators met the informant he was told that a magazine publisher had offered $200 for him to investigate the situation. But because of the mysterious things that had taken place, the informer said, he thought he'd better turn the matter over to the military.

The two harbor patrol men said that their encounter occurred off Maury Island, in Puget Sound. They gave the investigating officers a fine description of the UFOs they saw. The story included the fact that the radio on the boat went dead for no apparent reason. The officer was told that they had photos of the UFOs. They also related the call by a mysterious person who warned them not to tell anyone what they had seen. The investigating officers left Tacoma a few hours later, but the B-25 they were in crashed.

The crew chief and another passenger managed to parachute to safety.

The Air Force continued the investigation and learned that the whole thing was a hoax. None of the people involved in the hoax ever thought that their actions would indirectly cause the death of two men. But people who play practical jokes, or think up hoaxes, never are bright enough to see that what they are doing may very well snowball into something which would be beyond their power to stop.

"If the blind lead the blind,
both shall fall into the ditch"
Matthew XV, 14

XIII

THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE is wholly responsible for the mystery enshrouding the entire subject of UFOs. After categorically denying the existence of UFOs for years they have, in mid-August of 1966, decided to be generous enough to allay public fears about UFOs by appointing a university to study the phenomenon. The following is the exact text of the article by Walter Sullivan as it appeared in *The New York Times* in which the Air Force announcement was explained. Walter Sullivan is the *Times*' Science Editor.

AIR FORCE SELECTING UNIVERSITY *TO STUDY 'FLYING SAUCER' DATA*

In obvious response to public disquiet regarding recent "flying saucer" reports, the Air Force is organizing a new approach to the problem.

It is seeking to contract with a leading university

to undertake a program of intensive investigations of a certain number of such reports.

The identity of the university will not be made public until the arrangement is final, but Air Force sources said it was an institution of sufficient stature to guarantee in the public mind that its inquiry would be impartial.

The investigating teams are to include at least one physical scientist, such as an astronomer or someone familiar with atmospheric physics. Significantly, there will also be a psychologist, preferably one with clinical experience.

Policy Is Changed

This marks a departure from past Air Force policy. It has not taken very seriously the thousands of reports of "unidentified flying objects," or UFOs, that have come in during the last two decades. These investigations have been termed "Project Blue Book" because the results are reported in such books. The attitude of the Air Force toward the problem is reflected in the fact that the project staff has consisted of one officer, one sergeant and a secretary.

The blue-book analyses of 10,147 sightings from 1947 to the start of this year furnished a conventional explanation for all but 646 of them. The remainder were classed as unidentifiable for lack of adequate information.

The explanations have ranged from weather balloons to swamp gas. The latter was cited to explain strange glowing lights reported at two points in Michigan last March.

In both cases they were seen as a spring thaw released the winter's accumulation of gas, probably methane, from swamps. The fact that the gas in such cases luminesces in various colors above the swamp is well known, but why it does so has not been fully explained.

The current projects for probing more deeply into UFO reports did not grow from any suspicion on the part of the Air Force or higher authority that "flying saucers" might represent visitations from other worlds. It grew from a request last year by Major General E. B. LeBailly, the Air Force Director of Information.

He had noticed the widespread charges by UFO enthusiasts that the Air Force was concealing the truth about these episodes lest there be general panic.

He pointed out that some of the UFO reports came from "intelligent and technically well qualified individuals whose integrity cannot be doubted." He also noted that the Air Force received only a fraction of the UFO reports publicized elsewhere. It has been charged that witnesses hesitate to report to the Air Force for fear of ridicule.

Pursuant to General LeBailly's suggestion, the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board on February 3rd of this year convened an ad hoc committee of scientists to examine the situation. It studied the Blue Book analyses and found the program well organized but "quite limited."

In particular, the committee said that some sightings had been classed as "identified" although the

information on which this had been based was "too meager or too indefinite to justify such classification."

The committee therefore recommended the program that is now quietly being carried out as a supplement to Project Blue Book. It is proposed that about 100 sightings a year be studied intensively with, on the average, about 10 man-days devoted to each.

While a leading university will serve as coordinator of the program, it is hoped that, for wide geographic coverage, teams from other universities will work with trained investigation officers from nearby Air Force bases. These, when possible, would be from the Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

The virtually mandatory inclusion of a psychologist on these teams reflects the suspicion that in many cases psychological factors have colored what even the most sober citizens thought they saw.

The plan is to publish detailed reports on these investigations to meet charges that the Government has been concealing what it knows. However, there will probably be elements of the inquiry that cannot be made public—in particular, findings that reflect on the reliability of a witness.

As one Air Force man put it a few days ago: "We cannot publish the fact that we found a witness to be the village drunk."

The initial budget is $300,000 to cover 18 months. There will then be a recommendation as to whether

there should be a longer program and, if so, what path it should follow.

Some argue that the project, while unlikely to turn up visitors from other worlds, may throw new light on such natural phenomena as ball lightning or fireballs. This, they say, plus the relief of public anxiety, will justify the effort.

Unfortunately, this gesture of good public relations on the part of the Air Force is just that -a $300,000 white-wash job! To anyone vaguely familiar with numbers it should be apparent that an expenditure of ten man-days represents ten working days, if eight hours is used as the basis for the amount of time to be worked. One must assume that in the environment of a university an eight-hour work day is unheard of. Imagine expecting Dr. :——— to report in at nine o'clock in the morning and work until six. The hour for lunch would have to be on his own time. The team of specialists the Air Force intends to use will surely earn more than the $1.25 guaranteed by the minimum wage law, not to say anything of the fee to the university, the cost of clerical help and other overhead; such as telephone bills, travel expenses and the like. When all costs are paid, very little of the original sum will actually be spent on the prime objective of the program, which is said to be the analysis of UFO sightings.

Aside from the numbers game there are other elements in the article which typify the Air Force' attitude. The Air Force took great pains to point out that

there would no doubt be elements of the various investigations that could not be released to the public. By stating this the Air Force has precluded the possibility of the truth about UFOs ever being released. And of course there was the remark by one Air Force official about the town drunk who might report a UFO.

What, then, did the Air Force hope to achieve? Nothing more than to assure the people of the United States that in its infinite knowledge it is positive that UFOs do not exist but it is willing to spend a quarter of a million dollars to quiet the public's concern. That's extremely generous of them since the money comes from our taxes. It's even more generous when a great deal more than money may be at stake and the history of the past nineteen years unequivocally shows that the Air Force does know a great deal more about UFOs than it has ever dared to release.

To understand the position of the Air Force it is absolutely necessary to go back to the latter half of the nineteen-forties. The first UFO on Air Force records was spotted on the 24th of June, 1947; shortly afterwards the Air Force established a project to investigate UFO reports. This sighting was the now famous Kenneth Arnold Incident. By September of 1947 ATIC reported to the Commanding General of the Air Force that "the reported phenomena were real." This report resulted in the formation of Project Sign, given a classification in priority only one step below the Air Force's highest. The question the Air Force wanted answered was: "What are UFOs?" It

is significant that even at that early date the Air Force did not ask whether or not UFOs were real.

Shortly after Arnold's sighting of UFOs reports came in from other pilots who had also spotted them. On June 28th an Air Force pilot in an F-51 spotted five or six circular objects off his right wing. He was flying in the Lake Mead area at the time.

The sighting that really shook the Air Force occurred on July 8th at what is now known as Edwards Air Force Base. The reason for the concern was that the Air Force was then engaged in testing several new planes at that base. The pilot who had spotted the UFO said:

> He was getting ready for a flight in the new XP-84 and happened to look up. He saw what he took to be a weather balloon. A short while before he had been briefed on high altitude winds which made him realize that the object he was observing was going against the wind. It had the size of a normal aircraft and was traveling at about 10,000 feet at about 200 miles an hour. The object was spherical and yellowish white.

Two hours later the following report was made by several technicians at a base adjacent to Edwards:

> They observed a round object, white aluminum color, which at first looked like a parchute's canopy. The object under observation was below 20,000 feet. It was falling three times as fast as a test para-

chute which had been ejected nearby about half a minute after the unknown object had been sighted. The object drifted against the prevailing wind. It appeared to move slower than the top speed of the F-80. When it was low enough it presented a distinct oval-shaped outline. There were two projections on its top surface. The projections crossed each other which could mean that the object rotated or oscillated. There were no noise, flames, propeller arcs or other means of propulsion noted.

Five men saw this UFO for about a minute and a half. Their opinion was that it was man-made and not the result of a hallucination.

Air Force Intelligence slapped the security lid shut. Little or nothing could be learned about what they were thinking about in the area of UFOs for the remainder of 1947. The Air Force was sure that the Russians had developed some new type of aircraft but through various cloak and dagger methods they were able to get a good line on what the Russians had in their arsenal of aircraft. It became clear that UFOs did not belong to Russia.

At the beginning of 1948 stories about UFOs from other parts of the world began making the headlines. Then came the Mantell case. In July of 1948 came the report by Chiles and Whitted. Just about the time that Lieutenant Gorman encountered a UFO over Fargo, North Dakota, ATIC's secret report went up through channels to the Commanding General of The Air Force. ATIC had concluded that UFOs were not of

this earth, they were interplanetary. ATIC's report finally reached General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, Chief of Staff at that time. He rejected the idea that UFOs were interplanetary. That was that!

A general may have the power to make a decision as to whether the UFOs were from earth or another world but the decision did not do away with the problem. When it came back it did so under different colors.

On December 5, 1948 an Air Force transport was ten miles east of Albuquerque, New Mexico, at an altitude of 10,000 feet. At nine-twenty-seven at night the pilots, co-pilot and engineer saw a huge green fireball streak across the sky. The pilot reported what he had seen because just twenty-two minutes before he had seen an identical fireball near Las Vegas, Nevada. Once again the Air Force became jumpy. They called upon Dr. Lincoln La Paz, a recognized authority on meteorites and meteors. His verdict was that he doubted that the green fireball was a meteor. In a conference with other top ranking scientists whom the Air Force had also consulted about the fireballs, Dr. La Paz made the following three points:

1. The trajectory of the fireball was too flat to be a meteor
2. Meteors don't burn with a green color
3. He failed to locate any fragments of meteoric origin in his extensive ground search

The only conclusion that the members of the con-

ference could unanimously agree upon was that the green fireballs were due to some unknown natural phenomenon.

In the summer of 1949 the Air Force established Project Twinkle. Its purpose was to discover what the green fireballs were. Once again by not questioning the existence of the phenomenon they agreed to its existence without requiring proof. Project Twinkle died of inertia and the Korean War. Oddly enough, reports of the fireballs ceased to come in to ATIC headquarters.

Early in 1949 the Air Force changed the name of Project Sign to Project Grudge. The objectives of Project Grudge were quite different from those of its predecessor. Project Grudge was to explain all UFO reports and then show how the Air Force managed to give its brilliant solution to all the sightings.

To do this Air Force enlisted the aid of the Air Weather Service, and Dr. J. Allen Hynek, an astrophysicist, and then Head of Ohio State University's Astronomy Department. In other words, as early as 1949 the Air Force utilized the help of individuals and groups outside of itself to help find a solution of the UFO problem. Therefore, the story that ran in the *Times* on August 14th of 1966 really did not add another dimension to the Air Force's search for truth. But in 1949 the in group of officers didn't believe in UFOs, at least not publicly.

Two days after Christmas in 1949 the Air Force announced that Project Grudge was at an end, and that the long-awaited report on what UFOs were

would be made public in a few days. At the time the Air Force had no way of knowing that report would settle nothing and serve only to confuse the issue and put more doubt into the minds of the people.

For the final statistical work that went into the report the Air Force enlisted the aid of the Rand Corporation, a civilian brain trust. What finally came out of the Grudge Report, as it is known, is that out of the two hundred and thirty-seven reported sightings analyzed twenty-three per cent could not be explained or, to put it in terms of numbers, there were 53 UFO reports for which there was no explanation. The report left the Air Force in the position of having admitted to the fact that all UFOs couldn't be explained away.

Between the years 1950 and 1953 the Air Force started another Project Grudge, which evolved into Project Blue Book. Project Blue Book was under the very able and honest guidance of Edward J. Ruppelt, who conscientiously sought to answer the question of what were UFOs and where did they come from. He followed every lead, explored every possible explanation on each of the sightings that came his way. In a letter to Keyhoe in 1954 Ruppelt wrote:

"If the reported speeds and maneuvers of the reported objects are correct I also agree that they must be from another planet as our level of technical 'know-how' is not high enough to build such craft. Many people in high military circles agree on this point; the only question was were the reports cor-

rect in their descriptions of speed and maneuvers. The Air Force did not believe they were."

It is interesting to note that though the Air Force did not believe UFOs were from another planet and had just about decided that anyone who saw one was either suffering from an hallucination or was viewing a bird, a plane, a weather balloon—anything but a UFO—it still took the trouble to issue an order in 1952 to shoot down UFOs that refuse to land. This story appeared in the July 25, 1952 issue of the *Daily News*, Washington, D. C.

But even more significant than an order to shoot down recalcitrant UFOs was a Joint Service order known as JANAP - 146, issued in the fall of 1953.

The directive orders pilots who spot UFOs to immediately report them via a top priority radio network and to keep the sighting secret. Under the second section of this Joint Service publication, a pilot who tells anything about an official UFO sighting can be imprisoned for from one to ten years and be fined up to $10,000. According to Donald Keyhoe a second order carries court martial penalties.

At about the same time these were sent down from headquarters, the Air Force asked for and got the cooperation of the commercial pilots via a meeting held with the Airline Pilots Association representatives at the Hotel Roosevelt in Hollywood, California.

The Air Force's own directive to limit the dissemination of information on UFOs came from the Secretary of the Air Force, Harold Talbot. It was

dated August 26, 1953, and bore the identifying number AFR-200-2.

As Donald Keyhoe points out in his book *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*, this order in effect allowed the public to have information on all the hoaxes, the practical jokers and erroneous reports of UFO sightings. The regulation served to smother any information about those sightings which were real and could not be explained away.

For something that doesn't exist, the Air Force has taken some very tight precautionary measures. Perhaps it's just good discipline for the men? In any case, the regulations stand and as long as they stand the public will not know how many UFOs have been sighted and if they have a logical explanation or not. These regulations are representative of the kind of censorship and distortion of facts that our military are permitted to exercise under the guise of its being done for the public good. The question then becomes: who has the right to decide what the public should know for its own good? Obviously, a man who has spent years in the service of his country is not part of the public. He cannot even begin to think like a civilian. Yet it is probably this type of man who makes the decision . . .

"Before my God, I might not this believe
Without the sensible and true avouch
Of my own eyes"
Hamlet, Act I, Sc. I

XIV

On August twenty-third 1966 an article appeared on page 35 of the *New York Times* with the following headline: "FLYING SAUCER" MIGHT BE A BALL OF IONIZED AIR. The article, written by Evert Clark, was based on a feature that appeared in *Aviation Week & Space Technology* in which Philip J. Klass, the magazine's senior electronics editor, sugguested that many of the "flying saucers" that have been spotted over high tension lines were the result of the air around the lines becoming ionized by the high voltage. This ionization produces what is commonly referred to as a "corona effect." According to Mr. Klass, no one previous to himself had taken the trouble to correlate the various phenomena; such as: corona discharge, ball lightening and the dancing green, bluish-white objects that have been seen around power lines. He suggests they may all be the same.

The *Times* article states that Mr. Klass discounts

all the Exeter sightings around power lines because they took place at night. He was able to do this because the weather conditions around Exeter were such that they would favor a "corona effect." Mr. Klass also explained that even though the rainfall in the area was less than normal, the distance between the viewer and the point of ionization would have tended to make the discharge appear larger than it actually was. He did not offer his theory to explain all UFO sightings made at night, only those made around high voltage lines.

To set the record straight Mr. Klass' theory is not a new one. It has been suggested many, many times by various individuals who neglected to check with electric power company engineers.

After the appearance of the *Times* story I contacted one of the chief engineers of the Consolidated Edison Company of New York. We discussed Mr. Klass' theory at great length and it was the engineer's opinion that the senior electronics editor of *Aviation Week & Space Technology* just didn't know what he was talking about. This gentleman said that such an effect on a power line would mean that there was a break in the insulation and hence a leakage of electric power. If this happened the company would soon locate it and make the necessary repairs. In his opinion the "corona effect" and the sightings of UFOs were not in the least bit related. I took the opportunity to ask whether or not he thought that UFOs existed. He said that there have been too many sighted for them in his opinion not to be real.

After the announcement by the Air Force that they will spend three hundred thousand dollars in an effort

to prove to the American people that UFOs are not real, the illustrious *Wall Street Journal* ran the following editorial on August 30, 1966:

"ON SEEING THE LIGHT

"A fascinating, if not exactly compelling, pastime of recent years has been speculation on the origins of celestial enigmas sometimes called flying saucers. Perhaps believers and disbelievers alike can set aside their quarrel long enough to join in commending the Air Force on its newly learned respect for public opinion.

"In the past two decades more than 10,000 sightings of peculiar aerial events have been reported to the Air Force, giving rise to considerable public curiosity. And indeed the Air Force has made some studies of the subject, but none with entirely convincing results. More than 600 of the sightings couldn't be explained in terms of known phenomena, yet the Air Force has repeatedly assured the public that they in no way threaten national security.Defense Secretary McNamara has joined in the assertion, presumably in the hope that if a high enough official adds his prestige to the assurance the public will accept it on faith.

"Faith is about all that has been offered, however, and plainly many people have not considered it enough. Some of the "proof" turned out, in fact, to be hasty and contradictory. Other reports have been kept classified, partly, no doubt, because of security considerations (for example, the possibility that some of the objects are advanced U.S. aircraft or

weapons) but some, just as probably, because of a military mania for secrecy.

"Small wonder, then, that the Pentagon prompted a sharply different reaction from the one it expected. So much criticism arose, in fact, that the Air Force finally decided to try an approach it could well have considered much earlier. About 100 sighting reports a year will be studied closely by investigating teams that include physical scientists and psychologists. Responsibility for coordinating the research will be turned over to a major—and as yet unrecruited—university. Significant details will be published. "That's certainly a more workman-like way of going about the inquiry, and it will probably take the Air Force off the hook. It might even provide some conclusive answers to why some people see lights in the sky.

"The light we hope other officials will see is that plenty of people still have the capacity to react strongly to glib and simplistic answers and to demand better of their public servants."

The significance of this editorial lies in the fact that it stresses the responsibility of the Air Force to public opinion. It is not enough for the member of any governmental agency to say: the people must accept what is told to them on the basis of faith, where faith means the surrender of the right to question and demand the facts as they were rewritten to suit the purposes of any one group.

There is a peculiar inter-relationship between the history of the UFOs and the CIA since 1953 when a

panel of top-level scientists was persuaded by the ATIC's Project Blue Book to investigate fifty of the best sightings in the project's files. After the scientists finished their work a long report was prepared on the findings of the group. They recommended that all information on UFOs be released to the American people. In Ruppelt's book, *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*, he wrote:

> "And lastly, they said that the American public should be told every detail of every phase of the UFO investigation—the details of the sightings, the official conclusions, and why the conclusions were made. This would serve a double purpose; it would dispel any of the mystery that security breeds and it would keep the Air Force on the ball—sloppy investigations and analyses would never occur."

Of course, all the facts about UFOs were not released. What occurred was that the CIA became involved and has recently allowed the Air Force to release a censored version of the report. Once again John Lear, Science Editor for *The Saturday Review*, has written about UFOs but this time he has involved the CIA and accuses it of being the power behind the scenes, so to speak. The Lear article appeared in the September 3, 1966 issue of *The Saturday Review*. It was entitled "The Disputed CIA Document on UFOs." His criticism of the CIA's action is mild. He more or less settles their role and his understanding of it by saying:

"The confusing consequences of the CIA's editing

job are most obvious in the concluding paragraph of the 1966 report committee's report which loudly echo Captain Ruppelt's words."

The committee Lear is referring to was the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board which re-examined the whole question of UFOs for the Air Force between the months of February and March 1966. The 1966 committee did recommend that more time be given to the investigations of these sightings considered good by the Air Force. And as Lear points out it did state that the public be made aware of the facts as they are now known.

Having taken the CIA to task, Lear then goes back to attacking those "militant groups" that believe that UFOs do exist and that they originate beyond our solar system. His attack is so vigorous that one is led to believe that he protests too much and perhaps he has reason to doubt his own disbelief about the existence of UFOs.

What is eminently important in the *Saturday Review* article is the public link-up between the CIA and the lack of information on UFOs. The lack of information exists because the officials of the CIA have seen fit to withhold portions of a document that was prepared in 1953. Of course they could claim that they are protecting the interests of the country by doing this but after thirteen years one would imagine that technology would have advanced to the point where whatever it was that demanded such secrecy would have become absolete over the years. Unless of course the information in the report that is still classified might possibly reveal what many people already

believe: UFOs are real and they come from a different world or perhaps they are real but they come from our world and are peopled by beings who could live in environments as different as air is from water and be equally at home in each. This suggestion is made with tongue in cheek, so to speak.

The question that arises from the action of the CIA with regard to withholding information on UFOs and most probably a great many other areas is this: What portion of our constitutional guarantee of freedom of the press is being violated and in a broader sense, what of the basic right of every citizen to expect its government to be responsible and responsive to the demands of its people for full disclosure as long as disclosure does not jeopardize the national security? The determination as to whether the security of the country would be endangered by such disclosure should not be left up to the agency involved but rather should be determined by a selected group with representatives from the military and civilian segments of our population.

The late President Kennedy looked with a jaundiced eye at the extent of the CIA's power. In the last analysis this power could be far more horrendous than anything we might encounter from UFOs.

The *Easthampton Summer Sun* is a complimentary newspaper that has a circulation of 18,000 copies from Amagansett to Walter Mill. Both these towns are located on New York 27, far out on Long Island. The town of Amagansett is where Kathy Finch lives. She was one of the three people whose sighting of a UFO was covered in the opening chapters of this book.

Some weeks after I spoke with Kathy and the others I returned to Sag Harbor. The people at the motel saved the August 20, 1966 issue of the *Easthampton Summer Sun* because the following headline and story appeared: *New Evidence Flying Saucers Land Here.* The story was an interview between a reporter from this local paper and Mr. Seymour Becker, Chief Radiation Officer for Suffolk County. Mr. Becker was asked if he gets out to Easthampton often. He explained that he does go out to inspect the safety standards of those businesses and individuals who use radiation isotopes. He went on to elaborate and said he was summoned by the police because of the reports of UFOs. He said this occurred twice.—"Once at the end of March and in April."

Mr. Becker explained to his interviewer:

". . . Right. These devices . . . there has been enough documented evidence to substantiate that these devices are run by some electromagnetic field. And there is possibly some radiation emission from these devices. Other people have recorded them."

Mr. Becker referred to UFOs as devices and explained that there was no evidence of any increase in radiation above the normal background level. He was questioned as to why he was called out for two particular incidents when there were many reported UFO sightings in the area. He said:

"With these two calls there was evidence from the witnesses that the objects had touched ground or were near the ground level. This was documented and investigated and that's why we were called out." The interviewer asked the sixty-four-dollar question:

Was there any evidence that there had been a landing?

Mr. Becker answered:

"Yes . . . we turned all the information over to the Air Force and to this private organization, NICAP . . . The representatives of NICAP came out and took pictures of it; and I observed it myself."

He gave the following description to the interviewer of what he saw:

"Well, actually, what we saw was what looked like . . . barks of the trees in that area were stripped and the sap was running out and the virgin grass looked kind of flattened out which looked particularly unusual. Of course, from a scientific point of view, this might have been there all the time, or maybe twenty-four or forty-eight hours before."

This incident occurred at a place known as Abraham's Path.

I later learned from other sources that the Coast Guard and Air Force stations in the vicinity were aware of the situation. The Coast Guard had in fact received a radio message from several ships about one hundred miles off the coast which reported that a cigar-shaped UFO was over the water and the Air Force had several times scrambled jets in an effort to make contact with reported UFOs. This information was made available before a tight security lid was clamped down on anything relating to UFOs by the authorities.

In other words, the facts were cut off from the public once again.

"Que sais-je?"
Michel de Montaigne

XV

Frank Edwards in his book *Flying Saucers: Serious Business* wrote in the last chapter:

> "The day of denouement cannot be far away. The time may be shorter than we realize."

The passionate urging of the man is commendable. But when did such exhortations ever move men of science? They turn from words because words have a way of tangling meanings. To see their side of it one need only look at the millions upon millions of words uttered on behalf of peace and yet we war.

But what the scientists cannot ignore and what the people should not ignore is the enormous weight of evidence that the last nineteen years have given us. And above all we do possess a form of government that is still a responsive instrument to the will of the people. The government and all its manifold departments exist only because the people permit them to

exist. Let the people then demand a full explanation of the Air Force's position with regard to its treatment of information about UFOs. Surely their actions over the years makes them suspect of withholding certain facts about UFOs.

The argument of national security could very well be put forth as a reason for withholding information, but if what the Air Force really knows is so sensitive, so possibly frightening, isn't it just possible that the people of this country and the world have a right to know? The Air Force does not stand alone. It should not be allowed to withhold information that might possibly concern the future of mankind.

If for example there is a direct correlation between the November 1965 blackout in the Northeast and UFOs it would be far wiser to tell the people what the facts are than to permit conjecture on the subject. The Northeast was not the only part of the nation hit by a blackout. The same condition occurred in the Southwest on November 21, 1956 but little mention was made of it. The number of power failures that coincide with actual sightings of UFOs appear to be too numerous to dismiss without a thorough investigation and a subsequent report to the people.

There are those individuals who have made detailed studies of the characteristic motion of a UFO. These studies were made because an object not guided by an intelligence would have a random motion. Early in the studies of UFOs made by the Air Force the motion of the UFO was determined to be anything but random. The conclusion drawn from these studies was that the UFOs were and are being guided by some

sort of intelligence. Because of the aero-dynamic characteristics of the craft the intelligence is assumed to be as high and most probably higher than that which we possess.

Perhaps the presence of UFOs does constitute a threat to man on earth but to date we really have no way of knowing. What we do know is that man tends to think that anything alien is a threat and this basic fear permits him to think in terms of others wanting what he has. It is a good way for him to make enemies before he has friends.

We will no doubt in years to come plant our feet not only on the moon but on the many planets of the solar system and perhaps even reach out beyond. Could it not be possible that we are on the other end of the reaching—we are the objective of another group of living things?

In our excursions into space will we go as an armed spearhead of vast invasion from earth or will we go with the honest desire to meet whatever is out there in the hope that we are not alone and accept what we might find not with distrust, not with hate, but with the understanding that no matter what shape or form the life has, if it can be met without resorting to violence it will be?

Perhaps!

"Man is a reasoning animal"
—*Seneca*

XVI

DURING THE MANY months that this book was being prepared for press, a great many new and exciting events have occurred in the study of UFOs. Perhaps the most dramatic thing that has occurred is the change in viewpoint of many of the men who have previously scoffed at the possibility of UFOs.

In particular, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, special consultant to the Air Force's Project Blue Book, has abandoned his hard-nosed attitude that most UFO sightings are the result of the observer's misinterpreting what he saw. His article "Are Flying Saucers Real?" appeared in the December 17, 1966 issue of *The Saturday Evening Post*. In it Dr. Hynek relates a UFO sighting that occurred on August 25, 1966, which has no rational explanation. Dr. Hynek writes about his role with the Air Force, which is more of a defense of his activities than anything else. He then goes on to describe his own feelings of doubt when it became apparent to him that a great many sightings were reported by individuals who had nothing to gain from making such re-

ports. He also touches on the probability that among the vast numbers of stars a significant number of these other suns might support a planetary system much like our own and on one of these planets a civilization could exist which might be equal to, more advanced than, or below our own level. The total summation of the article is that his experience with UFOs have now caused him to doubt the various explanations offered by the Air Force over the past eighteen years, even though he helped evolve them.

During a recent TV program in which Betty and Barney Hill described their supposed experiences aboard a UFO to a distinguished panel of scientific men, one of these men made some very interesting comments about a UFO sighting made near Loveland, Texas. The UFO was sighted by several different people in the area. The Air Force's official explanation was that it was not a UFO but a phenomenon known as ball lightning. The gentleman then went on to explain that the object seen was one hundred feet in length. Since his background is in the physical sciences, he was able to state categorically that ball lightning is seldom more than a foot or so in diameter and requires thunderstorm conditions for its generation. He checked the weather around the Texas town at the time and date of the sighting. It was clear and dry. He went on to state that he had the opportunity to examine almost two hundred reports that the Air Force had on UFO sightings and which they ascribed to other causes that could not have possibly existed at the time of the sighting.

What is now happening for the first time in nineteen

years is that the public is being made aware of the fact that they have not been given the truth by the Air Force.

In the past months many of the major magazines have come forth not only with articles such as the one that appeared in *Look* Magazine of March 21, 1967 by Warren Rogers which gives the whole subject of UFOs vast exposure to the public. In this piece Mr. Rogers does a brief survey of the last nineteen years and leans heavily on the Philip Klass explanation of corona effect as one possible explanation. He also thinks that the plasma concept is a way of explaining UFOs. Neither of these concepts is regarded by the scientific community as a possible answer.

Look has also brought out a special issue which is totally devoted to the subject of UFOs. The public is exceedingly interested in this topic and it wants the truth.

On October 7, 1966 the following release was made by the Department of Defense:

> AIR FORCE SELECTS UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO TO INVESTIGATE UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT REPORTS
>
> The University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, has been selected by the Air Force to conduct independent investigations into unidentified flying object (UFO) reports.
>
> A research agreement, valued at approximately $300,000, is being negotiated with the university by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research to analyze phenomena associated with UFO sightings

and to make recommendations on the Air Force's methods of investigating and evaluating UFO reports—a program known as Project Blue Book. A report is expected to be made to the Air Force in early 1968.

Dr. Edward U. Condon will direct the scientific phases of the work, while Robert J. Low will serve as project coordinator. Principal investigators working with Dr. Condon will be Dr. Franklin E. Roach and Dr. Stuart W. Cook.

Dr. Condon, former director of the National Bureau of Standards (NBS), is a professor of physics at Colorado and a fellow of the Joint Laboratory for Astrophysics which is co-sponsored by the university and NBS. Mr. Low is an assistant dean of the university's graduate school. Dr. Cook is chairman of the university's psychology department, and Dr. Roach is an astrophysicist with the Environmental Science Services Administration (ESSA).

Colorado is expected to select several other universities to take part in the research. These and other consultants will bring the number of scientists involved to over 100.

The National Academy of Sciences has indicated its willingness to assist by appointing a panel—at the time the Colorado report becomes available to the Air Force—to review the investigating team's work. This panel will not be part of the investigating team, but will provide a further independent check on the scientific validity of the method of investigation.

In announcing the selection, Air Force Secretary Harold Brown said, "We are more than pleased to

be able to place this grant with respected individuals in a university of such high standing in the scientific community. Additionally, the location of the university should prove invaluable to the investigators, since the National Center for Atmospheric Research and the research headquarters of the Environmental Science Services Administration are located at Boulder. These organizations conduct research on the properties of man's natural environment, specializing in the physical characteristics of the atmosphere and the near-space medium.

Air Force Project Blue Book files, as well as any other UFO information in the possession of the Air Force, will be made available to the team. Additionally, all Air Force installations within the U.S. will assist the team if requested. The investigators will, however, conduct their research independently of and without direction from the Air Force.

The decision to enter into a research agreement for this work was based on a recommendation of the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board which completed a review of the resources, methods and findings of Project Blue Book earlier this year. While complimenting the Air Force on the organization of Project Blue Book, the Board recommended that the program be expanded to include investigation of selected sightings by independent scientists.

Within the Department of Defense, the Air Force has the responsibility of investigating UFO reports. The Air Force has been investigating such reports since 1948 under its role of air defense of the United States, and the university's research does

not alter Project Blue Book responsibilities of receiving, investigating and evaluating UFO reports.

The New York World Journal Tribune of Wednesday, March 1, 1967 carried a story by Mort Young in which Dr. Robert Low, the coordinator of the University of Colorado's UFO research project said that he was "quite convinced that some sighting reports are accurate." He further claimed that "the project was not discounting any kind of UFO reports, including contact reports."

He ended by telling Mr. Young: "After we write up our report it will be sent to the National Academy of Sciences. It will not be sent to the Air Force first."

From this it would appear that the public might finally get the truth but once again it masks the fact the Air Force has reserved the right to withhold information because, as the Air Force claims: "Part of this material, however, will not be passed on to the public in later reports because it deals with classified matters . . ." That's the official way of saying information will once again be censored.

It will be interesting to see how much we will be told . . . .

"He holds him with his glittering eye . . .
And listened like a three-year-child"

—*The Ancient Mariner*, Part I, Stanza 4

EPILOG

THE MAN stood in the sand with me behind the motel. It was afternoon and the sun was hot and bright. Beyond us were the waters of Noyack Bay. He was an old man, four-score and some years, but he stood ramrod stiff. His face was gaunt and his eyes bright with life. He spoke in a thin piping voice which still had traces of an English accent. In all his years he had seen a great deal of the world, first as a boy of sixteen when he left his father's house in London and joined the British Army to fight in the Boer War. Then after years in Africa he went to Canada and during World War I saw service with the Canadian Air Force. Eventually he married, came to this country and raised a family. But what he came to tell me was about the UFO he had seen. He said:

"It was evening. I went out of the house for some air. I was looking toward the east, where there's a big silo, and then I saw this object off to the left of the

silo. It stayed there for awhile just hovering over the silo; it circled around near the railroad station, returned to the silo and then moved west. It was round and about three or four feet high. It didn't make any noise but there was a definite bluish glow around it. The whole thing was the color of gold but the glow seemed to come from bars that were evenly spaced around it and went from the top to the bottom. Here, I'll draw it in the sand for you."

He outlined what he had seen in the sand and stepped back. "That's the way it looked," he said. "And it moved the way I said. My eyesight isn't as good as it was when I was younger but I know what I saw and it wasn't like anything I had ever seen in my life."

The man and the incident with a UFO are real. He is not the character in a dramatic poem but perhaps we might do ourselves a real service to think of his experience and the experience of others not as figments of the viewers' imaginations but as something which, as yet, we have no way of explaining. Let us make a wholehearted effort to get at the facts and come to grips with them no matter what they might be.

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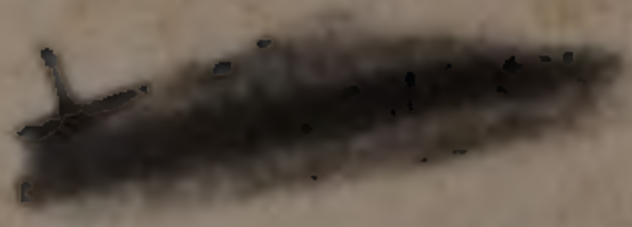

STRANGERS IN OUR WORLD

Out of 10,147 sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects, the Air Force has managed to "explain away" 9,501 of them as birds, balloons, marsh gas or hallucination. But that leaves 646 well-documented sightings still unexplained—and beyond the power of the Air Force to explain.

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